

## W. Bank societies appeal to PNC

AMMAN (Petra) — Heads and members of cooperative organisations in the occupied West Bank Wednesday sent cables to the Palestine National Council (PNC) now meeting in Algiers urging its members to adopt effective decisions that would ensure the return of Arab lands to their owners and liberate the territories from Israeli rule. The statement called on PNC members to coordinate their stand with Jordan at the regional and international levels with the purpose of benefiting from the current peace initiatives. Signatories of the cables represented agricultural engineers, farmers and cooperative societies.

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

## Israel arrests 200 Palestinians

TEL AVIV (R) — About 200 Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip have been arrested in two days of continuing unrest in the Israeli-occupied territories, Arab sources said Wednesday. Most of those arrested were youths, the sources said. They were rounded up after Israeli cars were stoned in the West Bank and an Israeli man was shot Tuesday by an unidentified man in the Gaza Strip during demonstrations in support of the Palestine National Council (PNC) now meeting in Algiers. The army placed over half a dozen towns and roads in the area under curfew.

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## Ramadan arrives in Turkey for talks

ANKARA (R) — Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan began talks with Turkish leaders Wednesday which officials said would centre on regional issues and trade. Mr. Ramadan told reporters before meeting Prime Minister Bulent Uenal it would be wrong to think of relations between the two countries only in terms of economic links. Turkey has maintained close relations with both sides in the war between Iran and Iraq and made an unsuccessful mediation attempt last year.

## Van Der Broek ends Mideast visit

ABU DHABI (R) — Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van Der Broek flew home Wednesday at the end of a Middle East tour. During his three-day visit to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) he discussed the Middle East problem, the Iraq-Iran war, and the promotion of trade and economic relations between the UAE and the Netherlands. Mr. Van Der Broek also visited Oman, Jordan, Lebanon and Bahrain.

## Papandreou in Vienna

VIENNA (R) — Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou arrived Wednesday for an official three-day visit to Austria at the invitation of Chancellor Bruno Kreisky.

## Egypt, Sudan to sign integration accords

CAIRO (R) — President Hosni Mubarak and Sudanese President Jafar Numeiri will meet in Khartoum on Tuesday to sign agreements to further Egyptian-Sudanese integration, the Middle East News Agency (MENA) said Wednesday. The official Egyptian agency added the pacts would cover freedom of movement between the two states, removing tariff barriers to help bilateral trade and setting up an investment fund. The announcement followed a meeting by the two presidents at Aswan on Monday.

## U.S. grants trade credit to Iraq

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States has granted its first trade credit to Iraq since diplomatic relations were broken off in 1967, the Washington Post reported Wednesday. Citing an agriculture department official, it said the Commodity Credit Corporation had granted a credit line of \$210 million for buying U.S. farm products. Some \$160 million had already been spent on wheat, rice and barley. Other U.S. officials said an American delegation was now in Baghdad to negotiate a further \$450 million line of credit.

## 20 Baha'i leaders executed in Iran

LONDON (R) — Twenty leaders of the Baha'i faith have been sentenced to death in the Iranian city of Shiraz for spying and alleged links with Israel, officials said Wednesday. A spokesman for the Shiraz Islamic Court said the tribunal tried 21 Baha'i leaders and passed death sentences on 20 of them. One of the defendants, a woman, had been pardoned. He said the 20 leaders had been condemned to death because: "Not only did they not regret what they had done, they were also proud of their religion and actions."

## PLO leader faces 'narrowed' options for Mideast peace

ALGIERS (R) — Yasser Arafat appears to be hardening his previously moderate line on Middle East peace moves, sources at a conference of Palestinian leaders said Wednesday.

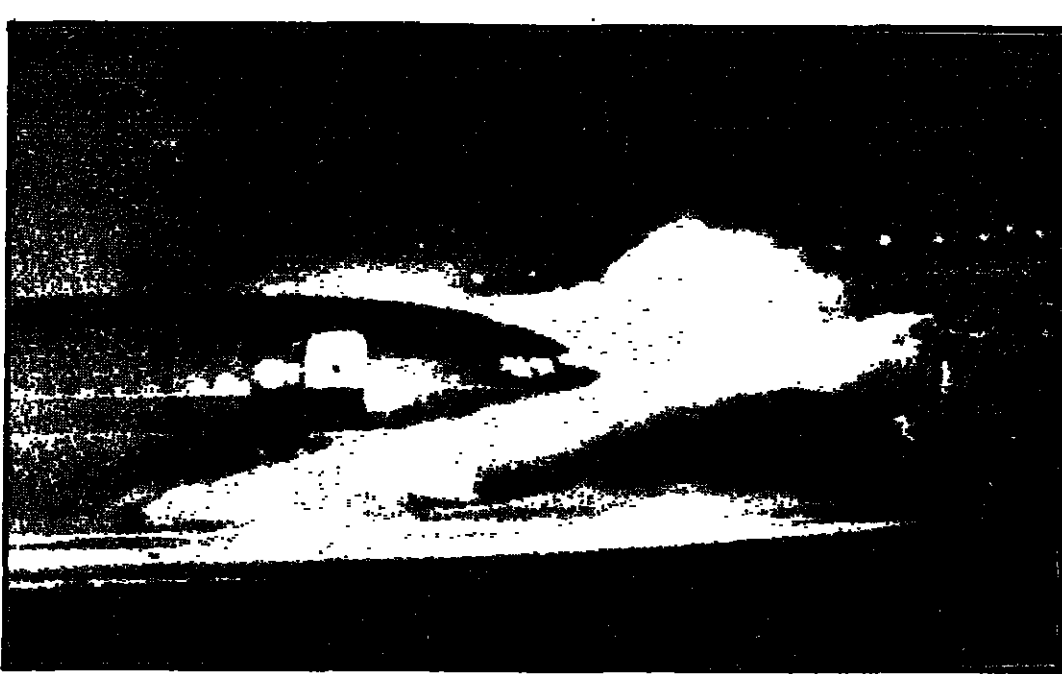
The sources said Mr. Arafat's options on peace moves had narrowed as the result of hardline statements at the current session here of the Palestine National Council (PNC)—the Palestinians' parliament-in-exile. They said Mr. Arafat appeared to be edging towards the militant position in an attempt to maintain the unity of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Unity is his number one goal at the moment. But both moderates and hardliners in the PLO are still pressing their views to influence the PNC's verdict on Mr. Arafat's diplomatic approach to Middle East peace.

Mr. Arafat's moderate stance has split the PLO into supporters and critics of his leader and during its session here the PNC is expected to agree on a formal response to various peace proposals under discussion.

A wide range of sources said it was clear that the PLO could not give an explicit signal to the United States and Jordan that it was ready to accept peace initiatives sounded out by Mr. Arafat over the past six months.

The prevailing view at the PNC was that the PLO could not make concessions while both President Reagan and Israeli Prime Minister

(Continued on page 3)



## GETTING HOSED DOWN:

An Eastern Airlines jet gets blasted by an emergency vehicle with fire depressant after it belly landed at the Miami International Airport late Tuesday

night with a reported 67 passengers and crew of seven aboard. The jet's landing gear malfunctioned and had to make the emergency landing while enroute from West Palm Beach to New York. (A.P. wirephoto)

## Car bomb kills 2 in east Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — A car bomb exploded at a petrol station in a rightist-controlled suburb of Beirut Wednesday, killing two people and injuring at least one other, security sources said.

The attack happened in Antelias, a coastal area of apartment blocks and beach hotels on the east side of Beirut.

The Lebanese regular army Tuesday took over responsibility for security in east Beirut from the predominantly Christian rightist militias that had ruled there since the 1975-76 civil war. But Antelias and some other outlying areas remained in militia hands.

The nearest Lebanese army post is three kilometres from the scene of the blast.

There was no immediate indication of who was behind the bombing or what the attack had been aimed at.

There have been two big car

bomb attacks within the last three weeks on Palestinian targets in Lebanon. On Jan. 28, a bomb demolished a Palestinian resistance movement headquarters in the eastern town of Shitara, in a Syrian-controlled area of Lebanon, killing about 30 people.

On Feb. 5, 20 people died when another bomb blew up outside the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) last working office in Beirut.

## Israelis break roadblock

Meanwhile an Israeli patrol broke through a Lebanese army roadblock east of Beirut Wednesday morning.

The incident was the first reported between Israeli and Lebanese troops since the Lebanese army deployed in east Beirut.

An Israeli spokesman said the Lebanese set up a checkpoint at

Monte Verde, three kilometres east of Beirut, early Wednesday morning and tried to prevent a routine Israeli patrol passing. The patrol, commanded by a colonel, broke through the roadblock. There was no shooting and no one was injured.

The spokesman said the area was under the control of Israeli troops and Israel "has no intention of discontinuing its patrols, which are a routine part of the ongoing security measures in the area."

Tuesday, Israeli troops killed three Palestinian commandos who attacked an Israeli checkpoint at Monte Verde, which is on the only passable road from Beirut to

Israel says Haddad militia will be integrated into Lebanese army, page 8

(Continued on page 3)

## Iraq reports new flare-up on battlefield

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said Wednesday that its troops had repulsed a fresh Iranian attack on the current Gulf war battlefield, along the border east of the Iraqi town of Amara.

A statement broadcast by Baghdad Radio did not say when the new attack took place. It said Iran lost some men killed or captured.

Iran claimed it smashed an Iraqi brigade the same day.

Correspondents taken to the Iraqi lines during the lull that followed found it difficult to establish the actual scale of the fighting or the numbers killed on either side.

Iraq has said 15,000 Iranians have died since the offensive started.

Neutral diplomats doubt whether Iran has the military strength to smash the defending Iraqi Fourth Corps and advance very far.

## Sharon 'escaped double trap'

PARIS (R) — Former Israeli Defence Minister Ariel Sharon was quoted in a French newspaper interview Wednesday as saying he had escaped the double trap of having to resign or be sacked.

Mr. Sharon was replaced as defence minister and made a minister without portfolio on Monday following the report of a judicial inquiry into the Beirut massacre of Palestinian refugees which called for his resignation.

The Paris daily Le Matin, the newspaper closest to the socialist government, reported him as saying: "From the start I had to avoid

the double trap that lay in wait for me: On the one hand, having to resign, and on the other being 'dismissed from my job.' "I succeeded. I didn't resign and I wasn't dismissed."

He said it had been a question of changing round cabinet posts. In his letter to Prime Minister Menachem Begin saying he would hand over the defence portfolio he did not offer to resign and specified he did not intend to leave the government.

The important thing, he told the newspaper, was that he was still in the government.

## Hussein, Hassan and Qasem confer with West German minister

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein received at Al Nadwa Palace Wednesday the visiting West German minister of state for foreign affairs, Jurgen Moellermann, who is also president of the Arab-German Friendship Society.

During the audience, they discussed Middle East developments and ways of bolstering Jordanian-West German cooperation and ties of friendship. The audience was attended by Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem and West German Ambassador to Jordan Hermann Munz.

Earlier Wednesday, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan discussed with Mr. Moellermann the Middle East question in general, and the situation in the occupied Arab territories in particular.

They also discussed ways of further bolstering West German-Jordanian relations. Mr. Moellermann arrived in Amman Tuesday for a visit expected to last several days and said upon arrival that his visit is aimed at discussing means of strengthening cooperation between

West Germany and Jordan and coordinating both countries' stands vis-a-vis world issues, particularly the Middle East question. He also praised His Majesty King Hussein's efforts for establishing a just and durable peace and stressed the West German government's deep appreciation for these efforts.

In reply to a question Mr. Moellermann denied that the forthcoming visit to Israel by West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl was to express support for Israel's policies. "This visit comes in the course of a tour Mr. Kohl will be making in the Middle East," Mr. Moellermann said.

Later, Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem discussed with the West German visitor the region's problems and Israel's invasion of Lebanon which the minister said has "clearly revealed Israel's expansionist designs in Arab lands."

Mr. Qasem explained Jordan's efforts for helping "Lebanon to regain its full sovereignty and territorial integrity" and pointed out "the dangers threatening the Arab World because of Iran's continued aggression against Iraq."

## Israeli minister promises to follow up inquiry report

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Justice Minister Moshe Nissim promised Wednesday that the government and army would correct the flaws in their decision-making process as demanded by the commission which probed the Beirut massacre.

Mr. Nissim was replying to three no-confidence motions in which opposition speakers demanded the government's resignation over the blunders uncovered by the commission.

The government was expected to narrowly defeat the motions in voting several hours later.

The commission scored the army and government for failing to keep each other informed and for not keeping records of conversations. It pointed to blockages in the communications pipeline that prevented early warnings of the massacre from reaching the decision-makers.

Mr. Nissim accused the opposition of showing "a great deal of selectivity in presenting the true conclusions of the commission."

He denied that the commission had held the government collectively responsible for the massacre, saying responsibility fell on

certain individuals and the government had acted against them. He quoted extensively from the commission's words of praise for Israel's speedy decision to invade west Beirut in an effort to head off vengeance killings in the wake of Lebanese President-elect Bashir Gemayel's assassination.

Mr. Nissim noted that the commission had justified the use of the Falangists as surrogates to answer public pressure in Israel for the Falangists to do more fighting on Israel's side.

## Rabin attacks government

Former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin charged that the government's conduct during the massacre was indicative of its handling of the entire war.

Mr. Rabin said his Labour Party felt obliged to present the motion, even though he knew the government's 64-56 majority in the house assured it of victory.

Two more motions, by the Communists and the centrist Shinui (change) party, also were before the Knesset (parliament).

(Continued on page 3)

## Turin pays last respects to victims of cinema disaster

TURIN, Italy (R) — President Sandro Pertini and several thousand citizens of Turin paid their last respects Wednesday to 64 people who died in the poisonous smoke of an unexplained cinema fire last Sunday.

Police said at least 25,000 people gathered in the central Piazza San Giovanni outside the city's 450-year-old cathedral as a funeral service was held there for the victims of the city's worst post-war disaster.

The coffins of 42 of the victims, decked with wreaths of roses, orchids, lilies and other flowers, covered the stone floor of the cathedral. The families of the dead

gathered around them in dignified, grief-stricken groups.

Shops, cinemas and theatres were closed, and work stopped briefly in factories as this northern, industrial city fell silent in a show of respect. The blaze is still unexplained and the cinema manager faces charges of multiple manslaughter for failing to ensure that all the emergency exits functioned.

"Before us lie not only the remains of those who died and the beating hearts of those who grieve for them, but also this entire city," Cardinal Anastasio Ballestrero, archbishop of Turin, said in a homily broadcast to the thousands braving freezing temperatures in the square outside.

President Pertini sat, visibly moved, close to the altar, flanked by several government ministers. Gianni Agnelli, chairman of the Fiat car company which is based in Turin, was also present.

The families of 22 of the victims chose not to attend the service. Some had personal reasons, others rejected the city's offer because they had been angered by the apparently inadequate emergency facilities at the cinema.

Candlelight flicked over the wreaths and the mourners bowed and did not know where he was being held.

Curfew breakers are arrested and tried the same day, the source said. About 40 had been convicted and fined sums of up to 2,000 shekels (about \$55).

The Red Cross has visited the town twice since the curfew to check that residents had adequate food and medical services.

A Kiryat Arba leader said the settlers were not satisfied with the steps taken by the army to deter would-be stone throwers.

They should throw them out to Jordan with their families and blow up their houses. That would soon put a stop to this business,"

heads, while Cardinal Ballestrero led an hour-long service which included several hymns. The coffins were later taken away for separate burials in cemeteries chosen by the families.

Investigating Magistrate Bruno Caccia said he had received a medical report on the disaster which stated that all the victims died of suffocation by carbon monoxide fumes as poisonous, black smoke billowed through the cinema.

The disaster has provoked widespread anger in Turin and a heated debate throughout Italy as to how safety standards can be improved in cinemas.

## Court okays Kohl's call for elections on March 6

KARLSRUHE, West Germany (R) — West Germany's federal constitutional court Wednesday cleared the way for a general election on March 6 and endorsed conservative Chancellor Helmut Kohl's grounds for forcing an early poll.

The court, ruling by a margin of six to two, dismissed petitions from four deputies which argued that a dissolution of parliament was unconstitutional because Mr. Kohl's coalition still had a majority after losing a contrived vote of confidence on Dec. 17.

Presiding Judge Wolfgang Zeidler justified the verdict by pointing to the deep splits in Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher's Free Democratic Party (FDP) caused by its change of coalition partners last autumn.

He said Mr. Kohl had good reason to believe when he sought elections in December that his alliance with the FDP might not last until the next regular poll in 1984.

ish townspeople but to put pressure on them to cooperate with the authorities investigating the murder.

One military source said the system had proved successful, adding that the curfew would be lifted when the investigation had been concluded satisfactorily.

"We take this incident very seriously indeed," the source said.

The ambush took place under cover of darkness and the assailant may have used a catapult. The stone went through the front windshield, hit the woman on the head and continued on through the back windshield.

It was the first fatality in stone-

## INSIDE

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## FEATURES

## Freedom of press: A threat to privacy in Britain

By Nicholas Phytian  
Reuter

LONDON — Britain's popular newspapers have had their knuckless severely rapped over a 1981 scramble for news about mass-murderer Peter Sutcliffe, the Yorkshire Ripper.

The Press Council, ethical watchdog of Britain's newspaper industry, strengthened its rules on Friday by banning chequebook journalism and condemning reporters who "ferociously and callously" harassed relatives of Sutcliffe and his victims.

In one of the most damning judgments of its 24-year history, the council told newspapers to stop paying criminals' families, friends or neighbours for stories — or run the risk of parliament clamping more legal restrictions on press freedom.

But the council's code of conduct is purely advisory and at least one of Fleet Street's scoop-hungry tabloids is unrepentant. The Daily Mail, singled out for the harshest criticism, said in an editorial that the new restrictions were impractical, undesirable and against the public interest.

It portrayed the ruling as a threat to the investigative freedom of the British Press, which already faces some of the world's tightest laws on libel and contempt of court.

Peter Sutcliffe was jailed for life in 1981 for brutally murdering 13 women in Northern England.

The frenzied scramble to buy exclusive stories from anyone connected with him led to a public outcry. Queen Elizabeth even made known her "sense of distaste" at the practice.

The Press Council, half its members journalists and half members of the public, stepped in at the request of Doreen Hill, mother of Sutcliffe's last victim, a 20-year-old student.

Its 70,000-word report, fruit of a two-year inquiry into press coverage of the case, concentrated on three areas: payment of what Mrs. Hill called blood-money for exclusive stories, harassment of relatives and Sutcliffe's chances of a fair trial.

The council reproduced scrawled notes furtively pressed on Sutcliffe's wife Sonia by reporters who offered between 50,000 sterling (\$75,000) and one million sterling (\$1.5 million) for her story.

It expressed its abhorrence and distaste that anyone connected with a criminal should profit from that connection. Mrs. Sutcliffe,

who steadfastly refused to sell her story, told the council how the mob of reporters outside her home was so vast that a food and hot drinks stand was set up.

"Hordes of reporters clambered one over the other banging at the door, window and letterbox, shamelessly yelling they would pay more than the next man or woman for my story," she said.

The council, which singled out six newspapers for criticism, condemned reporters for intruding on Mrs. Hill and on Mrs. Sutcliffe and her family. "The conduct of journalists immediately after Mrs. Hill's bereavement was a clear case of unwarranted intrusion into grief," it said.

The council also said that both police and newspapers had failed to respect the guiding principle of British law that a person is innocent until proved guilty.

It criticised the police for presenting the officers who arrested Sutcliffe as conquering heroes and for saying that the arrest marked the end of the ripper's reign of terror.

It said that most newspapers created the impression that Sutcliffe, even though he had not been charged, was beyond doubt the killer of 13 women. It described this as highly and inexcusably prejudicial and unfair.

The report touched a raw nerve in Fleet Street, shedding further light on some of the shadier practices of Britain's popular newspapers.

The Times, the newspaper of the British establishment, said in an editorial that the report should be greeted in a spirit of humility and self-criticism. The Guardian, another of Fleet Street's heavyweights, spoke of the council

uncovering a rare stench that could not be ignored or fudged away.

But those tabloids that bothered to comment on the report acknowledged that mistakes had been made, while arguing that these were the price of a free press in Britain.

The Daily Mirror, which escaped censure in the report, said that the new Press Council rules could work against the public interest by protecting people who should be exposed. The Press Council report is one of a series of developments that has turned the spotlight on the way Britain's newspapers try to boost sales by scooping their rivals.

The rustle of cheque books and the harassment that marked the ripper case are symptomatic of a bitter circulation war among Fleet

Street's mass-circulation dailies.

All but one saw their circulations slump in the second half of 1982. The exception was the Sun, Britain's top-selling daily, which built its reputation with comprehensive sports coverage and pictures of bare-breasted women.

The fight for readers has led some newspapers to side-step conventions on the privacy of public figures, in particular Britain's royal family, and bend rules governing reporting of crime stories.

Buckingham Palace has repeatedly rebuked the popular press for its coverage of Princess Diana, wife of the heir to the throne, Prince Charles, and has strongly criticised papers for suggesting she had the slimmers' disease, anorexia nervosa.

Britain's attorney-general has taken five national newspapers to court accusing them of publishing stories about Buckingham Palace intruder Michael Fagan that might have prejudiced his trial on charges of stealing a car.

But all of those newspapers that commented on the Press Council's ripper report were unanimous in saying that Fleet Street should be left to put its own house in order.

The Daily Star, Britain's newest daily, showed that it, for one, was prepared to do this when it confessed to hounding Britain's royal family and promised to mend its ways.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Hill is giving Fleet Street a year or two to reform. She has threatened to ask parliament to act if chequebook journalism is still rampant by then.

## JORDAN MARKETPLACE

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## HOME NEWS

### Nurses will graduate under Noor's patronage

AMMAN (Petra) — A ceremony will be held at the Palace of Culture Thursday under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor for the graduation of three groups of nursing school students who specialised in general nursing and midwifery.

Speaking in an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, on the eve of the graduation, the headmistress of the nursing school, Samira Qumnuq, said that, despite the increase in the number of female students joining the Jordanian Nursing College (JNC) over the past few years, the number of graduates was not sufficient to staff the hospitals and medical centres in Jordan.

To overcome this shortage, the government has established nursing training centres in various regions of the country. Additionally, the Health Ministry is considering reducing nurses' working hours from eight to six and, is currently re-examining the nurses' pay scale in order to make the profession more attractive, Miss Qumnuq said.

She said that the current school curricula is quite adequate for the job training required by general hospitals, but nevertheless a committee had recently been set up to develop the curricula to bring it in line with that being taught at the University of Jordan's Nursing Faculty.

Since its establishment the JNC has turned out 1,024 nurses and midwives of whom 872 are now employed by the Health Ministry's hospitals, Miss Qumnuq said.

### British team to advise on construction problems

AMMAN (Petra) — A British scientific team representing the Building Research Establishment (BRE) in Britain arrived in Amman Tuesday evening to take part in a seminar on construction methods on Jordanian clay soil. The seminar, organised by the Royal Scientific Society's Building Research Centre (BRC) will open at the Yarmouk Liaison Office in Amman Sunday Feb. 20.

During the two-day seminar, participants will discuss subjects connected with the difficulties of building on such soil and the properties of clay soil. It will also study specific related problems such as the best way to repair cracked walls.

Nearly 120 delegates, experts and officials will attend the seminar, which will discuss three working papers presented by BRE and four from the BRC. These papers represent the results of joint research conducted by both sides over the past four years.

### Board to discuss coming ALO meeting in March

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian private sector's participation in the Arab Labour Organisation's meeting in March will be discussed by the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce Board here Thursday, according to the federation's President Hamdi Al Tabba.

He said that the March meeting, to be held in Amman, will be attended by representatives from both Arab and non-Arab countries' chambers of commerce.

Also at the Thursday meeting arrangements for the federation's participation in a seminar to promote Arab exports to Western European countries will be discussed, Mr. Tabba's said. The seminar, he explained, will be held in Brussels sometime in April. Other seminars and conferences in which the federation will be represented include the Arab Economic Day which will be held in Paris next month, he said.

### JD 18.8m World Bank loan for school building project gets cabinet O.K.

AMMAN (J.T.) — The cabinet Wednesday endorsed a loan agreement under which Jordan will receive JD 18.8 million from the World Bank to part finance a school building project to be undertaken by the Ministry of Education.

The project entails the construction of 15 vocational training schools to include living accommodation for the teaching staff. It will also see the building of boys' schools, each containing classrooms for preparatory and secondary level students, and boarding facilities for half the students attending these schools.

The cabinet authorised Jordan's ambassador in Washington Abdul Hadi Al Majali to sign the agreement on behalf of the Jordanian government.

The cabinet also approved a draft loan agreement with the Saudi Fund for Development. Under the agreement, Jordan will obtain 110 million Saudi riyals to finance the Aqaba thermal power station.

The cabinet authorised National Planning Council President Hanna Odeh to sign the agreement on behalf of the Jordanian Government. Also, at its regular meeting, the cabinet approved a request for the establishment of an Irbid Development Corporation which will be set up along the lines of those already established in Karak and Salt.

### Swiss trade delegation to arrive Friday

AMMAN (Petra) — Swiss Ambassador to Jordan Andre-Louis Vallon Wednesday met Minister of Industry and Trade Walid Asfour to discuss preparations for a visit to Jordan Friday by a Swiss economic delegation.

The delegation will discuss with Jordanian officials bilateral cooperation in implementing Jordanian development projects undertaken by both private and public sectors. Talks will also deal with ways of promoting bilateral economic relations, and increasing the volume of trade between the two countries.

### U.S. mayors delegation to arrive in Jordan

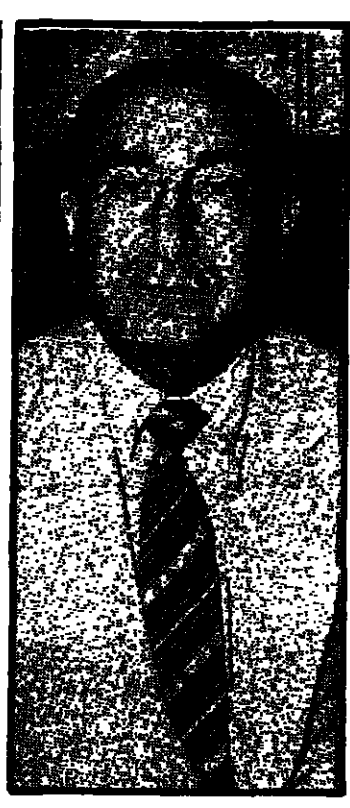
AMMAN (J.T.) — A delegation of U.S. mayors are expected to arrive Saturday on a week-long visit to Jordan.

The U.S. delegation, which includes nine mayors accompanied by their spouses, were invited to Jordan by the Jordan Society, which was established by Her Majesty Queen Noor to promote mutual understanding between the peoples of Jordan and the U.S.

This visit follows up an earlier tour made by a delegation from the U.S. Council of Churches, to Jordan.

### Maltese seek closer links

AMMAN (Petra) — The Maltese Government has expressed its desire to establish close cooperation with Jordan in the educational, tourist, commercial and civil aviation fields. This message was contained in a memorandum which the Ministry of Transport received from the Jordanian embassy in Valetta.



Minister of Industry and Trade Walid Asfour (Petra photo)

### Road transport accord made with Swiss

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Government Wednesday announced its approval of the international road transport agreement which is to be signed with Switzerland. The agreement, which will be signed at a future as yet unfixed date, aims at facilitating the transportation of goods by road, the unrestricted exchange of national commodities, as well as helping the passage of travellers and tourists between Jordan and Switzerland.

## Jordan, Iraq commercial centres' trade volume set at JD 13m for 1983

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Iraq have agreed to strengthen mutual economic cooperation, increase the volume of trade, execute a joint industrial integration programme and increase their cooperation in telecommunications and irrigation, according to a trade and economic protocol signed in Baghdad Tuesday evening.

The agreement was signed at the end of talks held in Baghdad by a Jordanian team led by Minister of Industry and Trade Walid Asfour and an Iraqi team led by Trade Minister Hassan Ali.

The two sides have agreed to fix the trade quota for their commercial centres operating in each other's capital at JD 13 million each for 1983, in addition to the private trade between the two countries, Mr. Asfour said after the signing of the agreement.

He pointed out that last year each centre's quota had been JD 60 million.

Under the agreement Jordan and Iraq will also establish a joint Jordanian-Iraqi company for industry with an initial capital JD 20 million, Mr. Asfour said. The two countries, he added, will also increase the volume of Jordanian agricultural exports to Iraq, and officials and experts from both sides will meet to discuss steps to be taken to bolster cooperation in irrigation and telecommunication services.

The Jordanian and Iraqi teams agreed to hold another meeting in the last quarter of this year to follow up the implementation of this agreement, Mr. Asfour said.

The minister and his accompanying team returned to Amman late Tuesday night.

### Businessmen invited to Brussels Fair

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in the Brussels International Fair which will open on March 19. The Amman Chamber of Industry received an invitation to participate in the 23-day fair and circulated the invitation to Jordanian businessmen and traders offering them the chance to participate in the fair.

The chamber asked that samples of Jordanian products be forwarded to the organisers of the fair well in advance of the opening date.

### Stiff penalties announced for drug related offences

AMMAN (Petra) — The military court Wednesday announced the sentences passed against 12 people for drug trafficking offences. Fathi Abu Shabaneh and Ma'rouf Al Kurdi will be imprisoned for five years with hard labour and was ordered to pay a JD 500 fine. Jabr Al Farisi will be jailed for four years and have to pay JD 1,500 while Yusuf Fudeh will be sent down for five years and pay a JD 500 fine. Mohammad Arab will be imprisoned for five years and have to pay JD 500, Mohammad Al Himsi will be

imprisoned for 15 years and be fined JD 3,000, Oqla Al Khalidi faces 15 years imprisonment and a JD 3,000 fine while Musa Al Ghneimat will be imprisoned for five years and have to pay JD 500. Also Abdul Razzaq Abu Al Ragheb will be imprisoned for seven years and ordered to pay JD 1,000, Ja'far Abul Rahim will be imprisoned for seven years and fined JD 1,000, and Mohammad Khreisat will be imprisoned for six months and with a JD 50 fine. The military governor Wednesday endorsed these sentences.

Continued from page 1

### Arafat faces 'narrowed' options

Menachem Begin have ruled out talking to the PLO or setting up a Palestinian state.

PLO Political Department head Farouq Kaddoumi, in a statement to the PNC session Tuesday night, harshly criticised the Reagan plan which calls for Palestinian self-rule in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Mr. Kaddoumi's hard-hitting address, which also implicitly criticised Mr. Arafat himself, was greeted with loud applause.

Sources close to the PLO leadership said the address was likely to form the basis of the draft proposals to the PNC, though the final wording has still to be hammered out.

Moderates want to temper the

PLO's refusal to join the U.S. initiative to show Washington they are ready for peace. As the major power in the region, the Americans are too important to be ignored, they argue.

But militants say the PLO has nothing to gain from an administration which has failed so far to get Israeli troops out of Lebanon—let alone the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Mr. Kaddoumi recommended a rival peace plan, which calls for an independent Palestinian state while implicitly granting Israel a measure of security within pre-1967 borders, as the minimum acceptable.

Hardliners, headed by the Popular Front for the Liberation of

Palestine (PFLP), were saying Wednesday on the third day of the PNC session, that even this Arab peace plan should be rejected. But it was not clear how far they would press their reservations.

Mr. Kaddoumi's statement aroused controversy among PNC members. One leading moderate described it as "lunatic and doctrinaire."

But PLO sources said it was unlikely that Mr. Kaddoumi would have compiled his report without Mr. Arafat's knowledge.

Mr. Arafat's aides say the mere convening of the PNC has been a victory for Palestinian unity. And the arrival of all eight PLO commando groups was a victory for Mr. Arafat.

### Car bomb kills 2 in east Beirut

Syrian-controlled eastern Lebanon.

Rightist demand

In the meantime, the commander of the main rightist militia in Lebanon, Fadi Frem, said his forces would continue to play a military role despite handing over security duties in east Beirut to the Lebanese army.

Mr. Frem, leader of the "Lebanese Forces" militia which stands charged by Israel with responsibility for the massacre of Palestinians last September, said: "Of course the fact that now it is the army which is in charge of east Beirut doesn't mean that there is no further military role for the Lebanese Forces."

"As long as there are foreign

armies on the soil of Lebanon, as long as the Lebanese army is not capable of assuming its natural role...we believe the reasons that were behind the creation of the Lebanese Forces as a military body still exist," he told a press conference.

The rightist militia forbade its men to move around the capital in uniform or to carry weapons, but retained control over part of Beirut's seaport and still imposes a variety of taxes on goods and services in east Beirut—its prime source of income.

Mr. Frem said the question of the port was linked to the future of all the other illegal ports in Lebanon and to the issue of Lebanese businessmen importing goods through Israel without paying dues to

the Lebanese government. This was being discussed with the Lebanese government, he said.

The commander expressed concern at recent moves in South Lebanon by a rival militia, the Israeli-backed units of Maj. Saad Haddad, which this week set up garrisons with tanks and armoured personnel carriers in two important towns.

He believed that Israel was using Maj. Haddad to prepare for the possibility that current negotiations on the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon might fail.

Israel is demanding security arrangements in South Lebanon, including a limited presence of Israeli troops, as the price for withdrawing the bulk of its men.

### Israeli minister promises to follow up report

Mr. Rabin said the findings of the commission that probed the September massacre had aroused "grave worry in my heart" about the conduct of the eight-month-old Lebanon invasion in general.

"Can we be sure what happened here, and was investigated and is therefore known to us, did not happen in other stages of our involvement?" he asked.

It was not clear whether Mr. Rabin was implying that other atrocities had been committed by Israel's Lebanese Palmachist allies

during the war. He continued: "Did you know that this is how the war in Lebanon would develop when you took the decision to go in? Were these the results you expected? The length of the war? Its price?"

He said that in neither of the other wars initiated by Israel, in 1956 and 1967, was the gap between expectations and results so wide.

As parliament convened, Israeli newspapers reported secret feelers aimed at bringing Prime Minister Menachem Begin's Likud

bloc and the Labour Party together in a wall-to-wall "national unity government."

Yehosh Ahronovitch said Interior Minister Yosef Burg, whose National Religious Party (NRP) is Mr. Begin's senior coalition partner, had initiated the feelers.

It said the idea was to give Labour Party leader Shimon Peres the post of deputy prime minister, and Mr. Rabin a top portfolio. Pressure has grown for such a government to heal the split in the nation over the massacre report and the ouster of Ariel Sharon.

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# Jordan Times

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## Dahariya schizophrenia

LONG indeed are Israel's democratic arms. First, a way was found to appoint a judicial commission to investigate the responsibility of the Israeli army in standing guard to those who were sheltering hundreds of Palestinian refugees in their Beirut camps last September. Now, none other than that army is in perfect "legal" shape to seal off thousands of Palestinians in a West Bank town for the past three weeks, ordering them to stay in their homes day and night except for two hours in the afternoon when they are allowed out to buy food.

Today, Israeli democracy is at its best of course. The judicial commission of Judge Hakeb has ruled that the Israeli army was perfectly entitled to enter west Beirut after the assassination of Lebanese President-elect Bashir Gemayel but that only the defence minister and a few officers bore indirect responsibility for the Sabra and Shatila massacres that followed. No doubt, the occupation of the West Bank is also for legitimate concerns about Israeli state security. And now, the three-week-old military curfew imposed on the town of Dahariya near Hebron is to teach the Arabs an unforgettable lesson that they cannot throw stones at trespassing Jewish settlers' vehicles and to punish him or her who injured, with a rock, an Israeli woman settler who died later in hospital.

Just where was the Israeli army when some-

body threw a grenade at peaceful Israeli demonstrators, killing one and injuring several others, outside Prime Minister Menachem Begin's office last week? Why did not the lawyer-soldiers of the Israeli Defence Force seal off Jerusalem to find the criminal? Was it because he did not look or sound Arab, or because his identity bore the marks of the untouchable Gush Emunim gang?

But, again, not many Israelis will claim that their occupation of the West Bank and Gaza is democratic or should be. So, why the question? The answer is we do not know; but it seems that where we hear loud protests and cries of injustice, from the champions of human rights in the United States and Western Europe, against the detention of one or more political activists in the Soviet Union or Poland, we see not one iota of concern for the 8,000 residents of Dahariya who have been detained en masse for the past three weeks by the so-called protectors of democracy and human rights in the Middle East.

It is lucky that the Red Cross somehow knew about the town's three-week siege and visited its people twice since their ordeal began. We are also grateful that the 8,000 Palestinians still have some food to eat. What we cannot forget or forgive, however, is the double standards of the human rights champions around the world.

## JORDAN'S ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Rai: PNC must respond to Jordanian-Palestinian moves

The current events in the occupied West Bank, particularly in Nablus and Dahariya represent a perfect example of Israel's inhuman practices against our kinsmen. This amounts to a bid to subdue them to the will of the occupying Zionist force.

At the same time our kinsmen's heroic resistance can only serve as a message to the Palestine National Council (PNC) now holding its sessions in Algiers. This message should be clearly heard and understood by the PLO leaders because of its substance and clarity. It represents a call for speedy action to save the occupied Arab land and liberate the Arab people from Israeli occupation.

### Al Dustour: PNC meeting a success

The presence of so many delegates at the current Palestine National Council (PNC) meetings in Algiers and everyone's concern to maintain national unity free from all outside pressure is one of the PNC's successes so far.

Needless to say the PLO leader's speech has created the right conditions for the session's success, and presented to the world a picture of a Palestinian people that wants peace based on justice.

### Sawt Al Shaab: Military option no longer available to PNC

The current Palestine National Council's session in Algiers has been characterised by positive thinking, and a commitment to independent decision-making and unity of action. This approach will free the Palestinian leaders from constraints and enable them to make responsible decisions.

The conference decisions should be purely a Palestinian affair, taking into consideration the sufferings of the Palestinian people and calls from

justice. This has no doubt foiled Israel's attempts to present the PLO to the world as a group of terrorists.

By extending its hand to the world asking for peace and justice, the PLO is making the superpowers face up to their responsibilities, and their duty to force Israel to recognise the Palestinian people's rights and to withdraw from all the Arab lands it now occupies.

within the occupied lands for help and action to save the land and liberate the people.

The military option which the Palestine Liberation Organisation adopted in Lebanon and the battles of Beirut is now no longer viable.

However there are other alternatives on the political scene that can ensure a liberation of the Arab land. Indeed the doors remain open for responsible and brave action to achieve our goals.

## RED & BLACK

By Jawad Ahmad

## Things are bad and economic

He did not have the chance to finish his education, and he turned into a maverick roaming the ground from one job to another. Years later he came across a bunch of his old schoolmates who were working on their high degrees at a respected university.

They gathered around him to ask about news from home. The midnight cowboy, baffled by the high-brow talk of his friends, wanted to impress them with his knowledge. "Things back home are bad," he said. In search of a slick word he added: "Bad and... and economic."

This seems to be each and everyone's impression of the economic situation prevailing in his own country. No-one seems to hesitate in taking very drastic and unabashed decisions to face the tough days lying ahead. It is this over-caution which is going to make the world economic situation even worse.

The new Brandt Commission Report (II) draws a very gloomy picture of the

world situation. This report, which may turn out to be a new sequel like the film Rocky, is widely accepted in Europe. However, it does not command any tangible popularity in the USA.

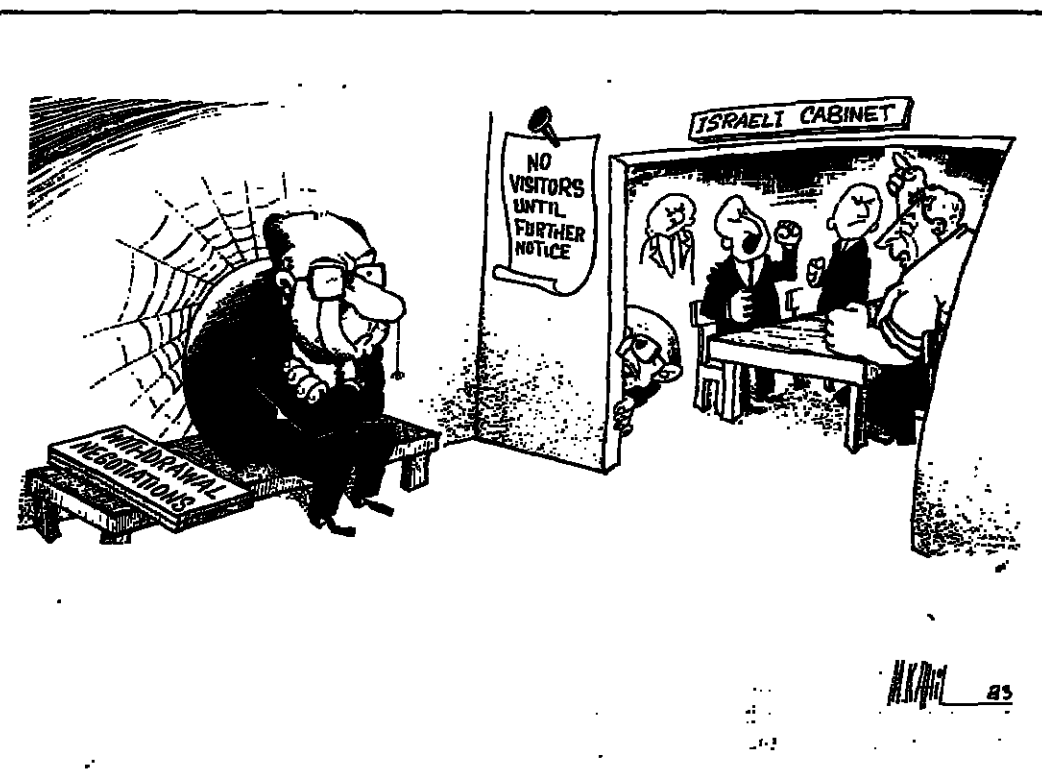
Moreover, the current meetings of the interim committee of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has probably succeeded in convincing the USA to allow a 48 per cent increase of the IMF capital (from \$66 billion up to almost \$95 billion). Poor and developing countries do not feel that this is enough. It is just a drop in the bucket.

IMF members from poor countries want a \$10 billion increase in the Special Drawing Rights (SDRs). These drawing rights give the international community a possibility to print money without a collateral. The SDRs are means to create payment means; they can not be used to settle payments directly. They are chips-not money. This scheme of increasing the SDRs is vie-

wed with skepticism by the rich countries.

The kind of international cooperation which was discussed at the Cancun Conference of 1981 and which lead to an increase in the capital of the World Bank did not bring a great promise. At that conference (held in Mexico and attended by about 24 heads of states representing south and north), the concept of "global negotiations" was refused. Instead, the delegates agreed to a c e f u p w o r l d institutions—such as the IBRD (World Bank) and the IMF. Both of these institutions will exert a great deal of influence on the borrowing countries. They will be in a weak position vis-a-vis the lenders and contributors. However, neither one shall be able to give enough.

All the delegations to the many conferences held in order to recuperate the ailing world economy must now agree on one fact: Things back home are bad and... and economic.



## Cheysson pays his first visit to Moscow

## France mends fences with the Soviet Union

By Charles Bremner

Reuter

PARIS — France takes a step towards mending fences with the Kremlin this week when External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson pays his first official visit to Moscow since President Francois Mitterrand took office in 1981.

Mr. Cheysson says Soviet policies over Afghanistan, Poland and nuclear arms rule out any restoration of "harmonious, intimate" relations, a reference to the privileged link forged by Pre-

sident Mitterrand's combined with socialisation prompted it to favour the outgoing president, Valery Giscard d'Estaing.

Many hardliners from France's staunchly pro-Soviet Communist Party are thought to have heeded the Kremlin's advice and voted for Mr. Giscard in the run-off against Mr. Mitterrand.

After electoral defeat, the finding itself in the position of belonging to a French government more hostile to the Kremlin on East-West issues than any other for more than two decades.

French-based firms working on the Soviet natural gas pipeline through which France is due to receive substantial supplies.

Invoking national sovereignty, a watchword of French governments for the past 25 years, President Mitterrand argues that there is nothing wrong with pursuing healthy trade provided France does nothing to reinforce Soviet military potential. "No one, not even our best allies will stop us," Mr. Cheysson said last week.

Last year Moscow had a \$1.3



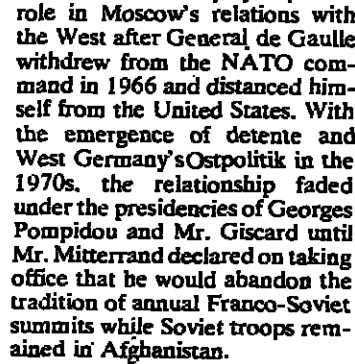
M. Mitterrand

sident Charles de Gaulle.

The minister's aides are playing down the implication of his five-day trip, which began on Wednesday, commenting that he has met Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko four times in different parts of the world.

But diplomats view the visit as a gesture of willingness by the French Socialist government to restore a level of political dialogue, broken off on Mr. Mitterrand's election in May 1981. They say the Soviet Union is far from writing off President Mitterrand and sees a potential for rapprochement with his administration.

Soviet relations with the Mitterrand administration got off to a bad start from the moment of the 1981 election because the Kremlin's long-standing suspicion of



Mr. Andropov

Possible summit

Mr. Mitterrand says the time is still not right but officials in Paris do not rule out the possibility of a summit with the Kremlin's new leader Yuri Andropov, before the end of the year.

With the military clampdown in Poland on Dec. 13, 1981 he virtually froze relations, accusing Moscow of orchestrating events there and tracing the Polish crisis to the East bloc Communist system as a whole.

Mr. Mitterrand also spoke out against Soviet human rights policies and aligned France firmly behind the NATO decision to deploy new intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe to counter a build-up of new Soviet weapons.

Diplomats say any Franco-Soviet rapprochement would be helped by a solution at the U.S.-Soviet talks in Geneva on the medium-range missiles. Mr. Mitterrand has made a strong distinction between political ties and economic and other relations with Moscow. That policy brought him into sharp conflict with Washington last year when President Reagan imposed sanctions on two

## Lack of modern equipment big problem for Turkey's army

By Hugh Carnegie

Reuter

AGRI, Turkey — As Western Europe argues over the proposed deployment of the latest in nuclear weapons, Turkey is defending one of the NATO alliance's two borders with the Soviet Union with badly outdated equipment.

Weapons of World War II vintage were used by the Turkish army in a big winter exercise near the Soviet border last week while U.S. Vice President George Bush toured Europe to drum up support for deployment of Cruise and Pershing-2 missiles.

The white-washed tanks, snoring across majestic, snow-bound terrain near Agri, some 60 kilometres from the frontier, were American M-47s, a design first produced in 1943. Their 99 mm cannon had still not been replaced by the 105 mm guns NATO and Turkish officers say they need.

There were no specialised assault helicopters, only limited ground-to-air missiles and just eight Milan tow wire-guided anti-tank missiles — all regular NATO

4,100 men, cost 97 million Turkish lira (\$500,000) and took place among the sweeping valleys and towering mountains that characterise this remote area of eastern Turkey which has a long history of conflict.

Czarist, and later Bolshevik forces occupied Agri four times between 1829 and 1918 in a series of fierce wars.

At this time of year, the ground is covered with 30 to 50 centimetres of snow and temperatures plunge as low as 35 degrees centigrade below zero, making conditions miserable for soldiers and civilians alike.

The showpiece manoeuvre of the exercise, an armoured assault repulsed by a counter-attack involving tanks, fighter planes, helicopters and ski-commandos, had to be called off because of fog, disappointing president and chief of staff General Kenan Evren who had come to watch.

General Evren, accompanied by his four colleagues in the ruling National Security Council who together mounted Turkey's bloodiest military coup in 1980, instead inspected ski-troops and temporary installations built for the exercise.

Many of the latter were impressive ice-houses used for everything from artillery emplacements to sleeping quarters. One extensive ice and tent complex was a field hospital housing an operating theatre where a man was having his leg treated. It had wards heated by stoves to comfortable room temperature and a dentist's surgery set up in an igloo. Although the final manoeuvre was cancelled, Turkish officers said the exercise as a whole had been a success.

### Valuable opportunity

equipment for countering armoured attack — among 250 artillery pieces in action. Out of over 400 vehicles involved in the exercise, only eight were specialised over-snow machines, and some of these were 15-year-old snowmobiles.

"The lack of modern equipment is the biggest problem up here," said one U.S. officer observing the manoeuvres, "and you have to remember there is a Soviet army headquarters within 10 miles of the border commanding five divisions."

Defending the 400 kilometres border, NATO's only frontier with the Soviet Union apart from that in northern Norway, is the task of the Turkish third army, which named last week's exercise after one of its former commanders, General Kurtcebe Noyan.

### Large Army

Turkey has the largest standing army in NATO after the United States. Its 470,000 men, of whom 420,000 are conscripts, are divided into four armies, the second largest of them near the Soviet border. The largest, the first army, defends the Bulgarian border, where NATO sees the greatest threat of attack by Warsaw pact forces out to capture the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles straits.

Kurtcebe Noyan-83 involved

But NATO observers said the final manoeuvre would have been a valuable opportunity to assess the forces taking part.

Some Western military sources said Turkish manoeuvres tended to be over-rehearsed and, although logistically successful, did not test the soldiers as NATO war games are meant to. "I'm afraid some of the thinking is also out of date," said one source who cited as an example the shortage of north-south roads in the Soviet border region which he said would hamper a swift transfer of men and equipment.

In the meantime, NATO efforts go on to beef up the Turkish forces. The tale of outdated weapons and equipment extends to all branches of the military and Turkey frequently appeals to its allies for increased aid to remedy the problems. The main military aid donor, the U.S., proposes to provide \$468 million this year in assistance. President Egean increased this to 759 million in his 1984 budget proposal.

For the army, old M-47 and M-48 tanks are gradually being replaced with 105 mm guns and new diesel engines. According to the International Institute for Strategic Studies, more than half of the 70 West German Leopard tanks on order have been delivered. Several thousand anti-tank missiles and 27 general purpose Bell helicopters are on order.

## LETTERS

### If it happened to you (What would you do?)

To the Editor:

Just living your life and making ends meet Working all day so your children can eat You've got a good home on a nice piece of land You've got lots of friends and done wrong to no man;

But one day they come to you Paper in hand It says you must give up your home and your land; You fight, you resist just to keep what is yours Next day you are homeless, with nowhere to go.

Palestine, now your time must be To break those chains and set your people free Palestine, the wind it howls when you cry The wasted lives and wasted years that slip by;

Freedom calls; raise your banner high Till the oppressors fall Lift it to the sky! Till Peace and Justice come to all in Palestine.

Living in London, New York or L.A. You're very secure there in most every way But just a short plane ride, some hours away The nightmare is happening Every day;

People are tortured Because they refuse To submit to oppression; They've nothing to lose Their homes are being stolen, Even today If it happened to YOU What would you do or say?

Charles Metropolis

Amman



# A Financial Times special feature looks at Europe's response to the unemployment crisis

## Europe cuts back work hours to save jobs

By Ian Hargreaves

LONDON — If you ask the man in the street, whether the street be in Manchester or Mannheim, how we should tackle the unemployment problem, the chances are that somewhere in his reply he will mention early retirement, shorter working hours, or both.

It is not difficult to see why. Ten years ago, both these objectives were being pursued on social grounds, and there is a popular sense of justice in the old yielding to the young, the employed to the unemployed.

But, of course, it is not easy as that. If you eliminate one job, you do not automatically create another. Indeed, broadly speaking, you will be lucky to create half a job and more likely one-third at a time of rising productivity and stagnant demand. And even some of the jobs you create, perhaps a third of them, will be taken by non-registered unemployed, further reducing the political appeal of the action.

Then there is the cost. Actually calculated, German social security contributions will need to double in the next 50 years to meet existing commitments on old age pensions. And with non-wage labour costs over 40 per cent of payroll, German employers are already screaming that they can afford no more.

In Belgium and the Netherlands, the sticky moment has already come when benefits have had to be cut to make ends meet. In France, Unedic, the joint employer-union-government fund, has just collapsed, in part under the weight of a misguidedly generous early retirement plan.

In Britain, where men retire at 65, and women at 60, the parliamentary Social Services Committee has just made a modest proposal to phase in a unified retirement age of 63, having been warned off more radical ideas by official estimates that existing pension commitments will cost double the present level by the year 2031 and that to cut the retirement age to 60 would cost an immediate £2.5 billion (£3.9 billion). Pensions and associated benefits already consume 17 per cent of Britain's public expenditure.

When it comes to shorter working hours, the arguments are no less intense. Employers, throughout Europe complain that fewer hours would mean higher costs, lost competitiveness and so

in the end fewer jobs. Europe's trade unions, meanwhile, have for long united in pursuit of a goal of a 35-hour week (at 2.5 per cent cut for most countries) with no loss of earnings.

The sense of intellectual stalemate on the subject is compounded when the academic findings are explored. An immense, three-part study on working time by the Anglo-German Foundation, based on company surveys, concluded that shorter hours would be unlikely to create jobs. Meanwhile, a host of econometric studies in different countries have found that cutting hours substantially, say by 10 per cent, would certainly produce short-term employment gains, but researchers disagree on whether these gains would be sustained over time as the competition factor crept in.

The British Treasury's model (studying a two-hour cut) assumed 75 per cent of the potential employment gain would be gobbed up by the country's uniquely overtime-hungry workers and by increased productivity. Only in the case where workers accept a matching pay cut was a durable cut in the unemployment figures (of 260,000 achieved).

A model run by two German universities, however, found that maintaining wages, and therefore demand, was the key to maximising employment, since such pressures induced employers to be more efficient.

The fact that the evidence is confused, however, scarcely discourages partisans from using it. Herr Karl-Otto Pohl, president of the Bundesbank, pointed out recently that German working hours were already lower than those of the U.S. and Japan.

"Too much is said about the impact on increasing employment, which anyway is in doubt, and too little about who should and who can carry the costs," said Herr Pohl. Or as M Jean Sole, secretary-general of Belgium's Federation des Petites et Moyennes Entreprises, has put it: "The countries with the longest hours are those with the strongest economies."

In these circumstances, it may seem remarkable that there has been such steady drop in EEC hours (from 41.3 hours a week in 1975 to 40.7 hours in 1979) and that during the 1970s Belgium, the leader in this field, cut hours by 16 per cent.

So far as early retirement is con-

cerned, the pattern of change has varied greatly from country to country.

At government level, Sweden six years ago created one landmark precedent by establishing the right to a partial pension for part-time working for 60-year-olds to 64-year-olds. Offsetting 65 per cent (since cut to 50 per cent) of previous earnings, take-up was extremely high and the levy on employers which fun-

ded upon three conditions: Europe-wide agreement on reduced hours; an improved international climate; and the success of the government's "solidarity contracts."

These contracts, 12,500 of which were signed in the first nine months of this year (covering 2.5 million people), were initially extremely expensive because of the over-generosity of the Garantie de Ressources.

The result was that 97 per cent of these contracts involved early retirement at the staggering cost of Fr. 120,000 (\$17,400) a year (or Fr. 1.2 million over the ten years involved) per name taken off the unemployment register.

The mark two contracts, just launched, aim to cut the cost -- the payment of a subsidy to the companies involved plus any benefit costs -- to between Fr. 20,000 and Fr. 40,000 a worker, and to stimulate deals on working hours, rather than retirement.

They also require that signatory firms agree to maintain their level of production after the contract. The government hopes the contracts will create over 80,000 jobs next year.

Not surprisingly, many of the contracts so far have been with France's large public sector, where they function as a kind of loose-framed planning agreement. Typically workers are paid at 60 per cent of the normal rate for the hours they forgo.

In the private sector, S.A.B., the Amiens-based subsidiary of a Swedish railway equipment company, concluded what the government considers a model agreement by negotiating a 35-hour week, new shift patterns, a 5 per cent drop in real wages except for the lowest paid, a 15 per cent increase in jobs and limits to absenteeism.

This approach of going for a sharp one-step cut in hours, rather than a phased cut, certainly is the most productive from the employment viewpoint, but it only works for capital intensive companies where new shift patterns can intensify equipment utilisation.

Last year's cut from 40 to 39 hours in Britain's engineering industry is widely considered to have created no jobs, although the French government claims the 70,000 jobs created by its one hour cut have been important in stabilising the country's unemployment rate -- the only EEC country to achieve this -- since July.

### The unemployment crisis has kicked Europe into one of those quantum leaps in the organisation of working time which, sooner or later, will catch up with most of us.

ed it has had to be doubled. A survey suggested that just under half of the working hours "lost" to industry were made up with new employment.

The Germans, with a less strong "right to work" approach than Sweden, went for a vigorous early retirement strategy after the first oil shock, so that Germany now has only 35 per cent of its male over 60s still in the workforce (see table for comparisons). Four out of five Germans retire earlier than the official state age of 63, all of them on generous (65 to 70 per cent of earnings) pensions.

Dr. Gerhard Kuhlewind of the Federal Labour Research Institute (IAB) in Nuremberg argues that a further cut in the retirement age to 55 would produce 440,000 vacancies. The Chemical Workers Union has already suggested a possible 1 per cent cut in real wages to fund such a scheme, but other major unions, such as the metal-workers, are more interested in pressing their claim for a shorter week in this year's contract negotiations.

The SPD's official line is to cut the pension age to 58 and Chancellor Kohl has already reaffirmed his commitment to lowering the retirement age. The chancellor, however, has suggested that those who retire early should have a lower pension which would then be topped up by the state from the money it saves from lower unemployment benefits.

This leadership from the state

early retirement. Last year, 55 per cent of workers retiring from Siemens departed on early retirement schemes.

The theme of German developments has been echoed in many other countries. In Britain the government has backed, and will probably shortly expand, a scheme to pay higher pensions to older people who leave their jobs to make way for the unemployed.

Early retirement on generous terms is available at 62 in the Netherlands, although in that country, as in Sweden, a bizarre broadening of definitions of disability to include many long-term unemployed has led to the fact that almost three-quarters of the over-60s are receiving disability benefit -- another way of keeping the unemployment numbers down.

France, meanwhile, made the mistake of offering such generous pre-retirement pensions (the Garantie de Ressources) that it will actually save money next year by reducing the pension age to 60 and getting all new pensioners on the same standard, but still by British standards generous, pension basis.

France is also leading the way, much to the horror of many employers, in reducing working hours, with a government commitment to a 35-hour-week by 1985. Recently, however, M. Jean Le Garrec, the Employment Minister, said this commitment dep-



## Randa Habib's

### Why pretend?

There is a very funny person in one of the shops on Rainbow street. Not Jordanian, yet an Arab, this young man wants to be modern. While speaking just a few words of French he insists on using the language of Voltaire. The idea behind all this is, that he wants to sound "foreign", thinking that being a foreigner automatically means modern or different. As a result, one enters into this shop and barely manages to communicate with the salesman who insists on not speaking Arabic.

The other day, this is what happened with me: I went into this shop and asked the salesman a question in Arabic. He answers in an Arabic that is meant to be shaky and punctuated with French words. I therefore answer him in French and the salesman not expecting me to carry on a conversation in French stutters and asks me to speak slowly admitting that his French is not that good.

Very well, I told him, this is not a shame, but why do you insist on speaking French? This is the idea of my boss, he answers in flawless Arabic, he believes that this attracts customers.

The snobbish owner has only managed to scare the clients off with those few distorted French words. This is why people prefer to go to the neighbouring shop where "Ahlan wa sahlan" rings proudly and without any complexes. It is excellent to have bilingual or trilingual sales persons but when a sales person pretends not to speak Arabic, this is too much.

## Opinion -- Al Ra'i

### Disappearing doctors

By Hashem Khreisat

The migration of specialised doctors from the public sector to private hospitals and clinics is a phenomenon that has now reached a critical stage. The private sector has attracted great numbers of specialised doctors through better income, and the offering of better opportunities at the professional and administrative levels.

The Ministry of Health, as well as the University of Jordan, have witnessed a mass exodus of trained doctors with special qualifications, who openly complain about their low incomes, and the routine procedures that characterise the service offered by the governmental medical bodies.

The outcome is a chronic shortage of most specialised services, and the total absence of others. At best, some medical specialisations have only one doctor, who is supposed to attend to thousands of patients that frequently need urgent treatment. The forced absence -- or sheer exhaustion -- of the doctor in such cases often leads to the revision of appointments given to patients, who find it impossible to wait.

This phenomenon necessitates a careful and serious study of medical services offered by the public sector to cope with the increasing demand on specialised medication. The Higher Health Council, the Ministry of Health and the University of Jordan should be called upon to make it an urgent objective that conditions for sufficient specialised medication be created to satisfy the public needs.

## TV & RADIO

### JORDAN TELEVISION

#### MAIN CHANNEL

06:30 Korn  
06:45 Korn  
07:10 The Munch Bunch  
07:20 News in French  
07:30 News in Hebrew  
07:40 Private Benjamin  
07:50 Eight is Enough  
08:00 News in English  
08:10 Movie of the Week: "S.P.I.S."

#### FOREIGN CHANNEL

06:00 French Programme  
07:00 News in French  
07:30 News in Hebrew  
07:40 Private Benjamin  
07:50 Eight is Enough  
08:00 News in English  
08:10 Movie of the Week: "S.P.I.S."

#### RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM  
630, 720, 1413 KHz  
07:10 Morning Show  
07:15 News Summary  
07:20 Pop Session  
07:30 News Summary  
07:40 Pop Session  
07:50 News Summary  
08:00 News Bulletin  
08:10 Instrumentals  
08:20 Young Sound  
08:30 Concert House  
08:40 News Summary  
08:50 Instrumentals, Old Favorites  
09:00 Special Feature, Pop Session  
09:10 News Summary  
09:20 A Crime Story  
09:30 Melody Time  
09:40 News Desk  
09:50 Date with a Star  
10:00 Evening Show  
10:10 News Summary  
10:20 Evening Show  
10:30 News Summary  
10:40 News Summary  
10:50 News Headlines, Sign Off

#### BBC WORLD SERVICE

630, 720, 1413 KHz  
06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Classical Record  
06:45 Financial News 06:55 Radio 4  
07:00 World News 24 Hours News  
07:30 World News 24 Hours News  
07:45 World News 24 Hours News  
07:55 World News 24 Hours News

### FOR FRIDAY

#### JORDAN TELEVISION

#### MAIN CHANNEL

06:30 Korn  
06:45 Korn  
07:10 Children's Programme  
07:20 Korn  
07:30 Programme on Sports & Space  
07:40 Religious Programme  
07:50 Korn  
08:00 Mary Taylor Moore  
08:10 Doctor  
08:20 Arab Series  
08:30 Arab Series  
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## WHAT'S GOING ON

### TODAY'S EVENTS

#### EXHIBITIONS

--Various Works: 25-27 by Stephen Hayes, at the Jordanian Centre.  
--"History of the French Song" at the French Cultural Centre.  
--Children's paintings, at the Hays Arts Centre.  
--Vagueland Paintings, at the Jordan Fine Arts Association.

#### FILMS

--"Tool" by Jean Renoir, at the French Cultural Centre Thursday at 8:30 p.m.  
--"Cuentos para una Noche" at Spanish Cultural Centre Thursday at 4:00 p.m.

#### PLAY

--"Scenes from a Midsummer Night's Dream" presented by the International Baccalaureate School, plus a selection of Elizabethan Consort music at the British Council Friday 5:00 p.m. Admission: JD 1; students half-price.

#### CULTURAL CENTRES

American Centre tel. 41520  
British Council tel. 36147-8  
French Cultural Centre tel. 37009  
German Centre tel. 41993  
Soviet Cultural Centre tel. 24003  
Spanish Cultural Centre tel. 24049  
Turkish Cultural Centre tel. 39777  
Hays Arts Centre tel. 665195  
Hays Youth City tel. 667181  
Y.W.C.A. tel. 41793  
Amman Municipal Library tel. 36111  
University of Jordan Library tel. 84355

#### MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaic from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.  
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qal'a (Clotel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

#### AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Air Jordan. It is subject to change without notice.

#### ARRIVALS

06:45 Cairo (EA)  
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#### DEPARTURES

06:45 Istanbul, Belgrade (IAT)  
06:45 Cairo (EA)  
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#### PRAYER TIMES

06:14 (Sunrise) Shuruq  
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## USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

### EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 75111  
Fire, fire, police 193  
Blood bank 75121  
Civil Defence rescue 66111  
Fire headquarters 22090-3  
Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777  
Police headquarters 39141  
Traffic police 56390-1  
Electric Power Co. 36381-2  
Municipal water service 71252-8

### HOSPITALS

Husseini Medical Centre 813813-32  
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amman 44281-4  
Akheh Maternity, J. Amman 42441  
Jabal Amman Maternity 36140  
Mallat, J. Amman 64171-4  
Palestine, Shmeisat 66913-5  
University Hospital 845845  
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158  
Al-Musharraf Hospital 667227-9  
The Islamic, Abdali 665292  
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164  
Italian, Al-Muhajirah 77101-3  
Al-Baskit, J. Ashrafiah 75111  
Army, Madinet 91611

### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Abbas Al Hakim 91256

### MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jds per kg.  
Apple (American) 450/400  
Apple (Double Red) 200/150  
Apple (Golden) 200/150  
Apple (Turkish) 200/150  
Apple (French) 450/400  
Apple (Starline) 200/150  
Banana 270/220  
Banana (Mukammal) 250/200  
Beans (broad) 450/400  
Beans 180/150  
Beets 280/200  
Cabbage 60/50  
Carrot 100/80  
Cauliflower (white) 100/80  
Chestnuts 450/400  
Coconut 350/300  
Cucumber (large) 400/300  
Cucumber (small) 600/500  
Eggplant (large) 260/200  
Garlic 450/400  
Grapefruit 120/100  
Lemon (local) 100/100  
Marrow (large) 200/160  
Marrow (small) 340/300  
Onion (dry) 140/100  
Onion (green) 240/200  
Oranges 250/200  
Oranges (Mandarin) 220/160  
Oranges (shamouti) 200/160  
Oranges (local) 120/100  
Pepper (Sweet) 500/400  
Pepper (Hot Green) 640/600  
Potatoes 180/150  
Rashid 70/50  
Spinach 120/100  
Tomatoes 180/140  
Turnip 140/120

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Grapefruit 120/100  
Lemon (local) 100/100  
Marrow (large) 200/160  
Marrow (small) 340/300  
Onion (dry) 140/100  
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Potatoes 180/150  
Rashid 70/50  
Spinach 120/100  
Tomatoes 180/140  
Turnip 140/120



## SPORTS

## China invites Taiwan's athletes to train together for Olympics

PEKING (Agencies) — The Chairman of China's Olympic Committee has invited Taiwanese athletes to train together with its own athletes for the Olympic Games to be held in 1984 in Los Angeles, New China News Agency (NCNA) reported Wednesday.

NCNA said that Zhong Shitong, who is also chairman of the Chinese Sports Federation, made the invitation in a letter of spring festival greetings to mark the Chinese New Year.

He invited the Taiwanese sportsmen to "join forces with mainland athletes for the full blossoming of Chinese sports at a time when it shows such great promise of revitalisation."

NCNA said that Mr. Zhong also repeated Peking's invitation to Taiwanese athletes to take part in the China's fifth national games to

be held this year in Shanghai.

China rejoined the international Olympic movement in 1979 after an International Olympic Committee (IOC) vote banning Taiwan representatives from continuing to use the name "Republic of China."

Taiwan finally fell in line with the IOC decision by agreeing to stay in the International Olympic movement as the "Chinese Taipei Olympic Committee."

China says that Taiwan is an integral part of Chinese territory and that the Peking government is the sole representative of the Chinese people.

Despite rejoining the Olympic movement, China did not take part in the last Olympic games, held in Moscow in 1980, as a protest at the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan the previous year.

## Liverpool, United look set to meet in League Cup final

LONDON (R) — Despite two surprising results Tuesday night, Liverpool and Manchester United still seem set to clash in the English Football League Cup final at Wembley next month.

Liverpool ensured their place in the March 26 final despite a rare loss. The runaway League leaders went down 1-0 to Burnley, but after their 3-0 triumph in the first leg at home a week ago, they could afford a defeat in the rematch Tuesday night.

Manchester United, meanwhile, went a long way towards earning a place against Liverpool by blasting Arsenal 4-2 in London, and even though they conceded two late goals they should still wrap up the tie at home next Wednesday.

Liverpool's loss was their first in 15 matches and came on a Derek Scott goal after 54 minutes as Burnley refused to be cowed by the prospect of overturning the deficit.

Though they ultimately failed to do so, they will have delighted 20,000 home fans who turned out to watch them. They should have

had a second and threw everything into a final assault which forced several excellent saves from Liverpool goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar.

United and Arsenal have a recent history of scoreless draws and the visitors has not won at Highbury for 15 years, but they put all that behind them Tuesday night.

They wasted no time going on the attack and constant pressure on the Arsenal goal saw them rewarded when Norman Whiteside scored after 19 minutes with a superb shot.

Frank Stapleton, formerly of Arsenal, made it 2-0 two minutes before the half, with Whiteside playing a prominent part in the buildup, and Steve Coppell added a pair in the 61st and 67th minutes.

Tony Woodcock and Peter Nicholas salvaged some respectability for Arsenal in the last eight minutes, but they will have a lot more to do next week in Manchester.

In the only first division match Tuesday night, Southampton defeated Notts County 2-1 in Nottingham.

## Austin has trouble beating White

CHICAGO (R) — Third-seeded Tracy Austin had to struggle, but she managed to defeat Wendy White, 6-4, 6-3, in the first round of a \$150,000 tennis tournament here Tuesday night.

Martina Navratilova, seeded first, eliminated Ann Kiyomura, 6-1, 6-3, while fourth-seed Pam Shriver defeated South Africa's Yvonne Vermaak, 6-4, 6-0. Sixth-seeded Sylvia Hanika of West Germany beat Kathy Jordan, 6-4, 6-2.

Austin, 20, plagued by back problems for nearly two years before finding a cure six months

ago, jumped into a 5-0 lead in 15 minutes, only to see it disappear as White won four straight games. Austin hung on to take with the set.

But things soon became difficult again for Austin in the second set, with White taking a 2-0 lead. Austin levelled the score and then went ahead, 4-2, before White held serve to make it 4-3. Austin took the next two games for the match.

"She played real well," Austin said of her opponent. "She doesn't make any errors. She makes you concentrate all the time."

## Barcelona on top without their stars

MADRID (R) — Spain's flashiest football club Barcelona had to wait until they lost both their star players to reach the top of the Spanish League.

Not only did they lose \$8.8 million Argentine superstar Diego Maradona with hepatitis eight weeks ago, but they also had West German international Bernd Schuster suspended last week for three matches after arguing with a referee.

Yet last weekend, minus their costly imports, Barcelona took over at the top of the First Division, overhauling arch-rivals Real Madrid after 22 League games.

They won again two nights ago, beating Malaga 2-1 to keep the lead on goal average ahead of Real and Athletic Bilbao. All have 35 points and 10 games each left to play.

Barcelona were stuck in third place for most of the season despite a spectacular 2-0 away win against Real Madrid in November.

They have not won the Spanish League title since 1974, the season they bought magical Dutch player Johan Cruyff for a world record fee.

Real Madrid have picked up the League trophy five times since Barcelona's last triumph, while Real Sociedad slipped in to clinch the title for the second year in a row last season when Barcelona threw it away after it looked as good as won.

But despite the dearth of trophies, the multi-millionaire Catalans have never been out of the limelight. Squabbles, rumours and big spending have kept public attention focused on a club accused of trying to buy their way to success.

They won the European Cup Winners Cup in 1979 and last year but made few friends with the brutally uncompromising approach they exhibited—most recently in their "Supercup" defeat by English European Champions Aston Villa last month.

In his five seasons as club president, Jose Luis Nunez has been through six managers in Barcelona's obsessive quest for success. The contract of West German incumbent Udo Lattek ends in June and club sources say there is very little chance it will be renewed.

Lattek has had to live for



Maradona... out of action

months with rumours that Cesar Luis Menotti who led Argentina to triumph in the 1978 World Cup, was about to replace him—cause for the latest friction between the manager and his bosses.

Nunez's top priority is winning the League title and there seems to be no limit to the amount of money available to secure his ambition. He has spent \$12 million on buying players—most of it on Maradona.

With the most expensive items on the team inventory off the field, Barcelona played fast, exhilarating football in their 3-0 win over local rivals Espanol last Sunday.

The players emerged from the shadow of Maradona and Schuster and played with initiative and relaxed confidence. If they perform that way again without Schuster, Lattek may have to rethink his strategy.

As the tussle for the championship heats up, fans are looking forward to the return clash between Barcelona and Real Madrid on March 27. With only four more League matches after that, it could prove decisive.

## S.T. Gordon makes 1st defence of title

EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey (R) — S.T. Gordon makes the first defence of his World Boxing Council cruiserweight title when he meets 37-year-old fellow-American Jesse Burnett at the Meadowlands arena here Wednesday night.

The scheduled 12-round bout will be the first title fight ever held at Meadowlands, across the Hudson River from Manhattan.

Gordon, 23, has won 11 straight fights, 10 by knockout. He won the 195-pound WBC title when he knocked out Carlos DeLeon of Puerto Rico in the second round last June 17. His overall record is 22-5 record with 20 knockouts. Burnett has won 23 bouts, lost 14 and fought two draws, with 10 knockouts.

## New French soccer club launches campaign to promote its image

PARIS (R) — A new French soccer club nursing high European ambitions has taken the unprecedented step of launching an advertising campaign to help promote its image.

Second division Racing Paris 1 has splashed posters on 2,500 prime spots in the Paris area in a two-week drive to attract attention.

Their slogan is simple: "Win and convince" (vaincre et convaincre). They are the first club in French soccer history to resort to such a campaign.

"Our aim is clear: To make ourselves known but, above all, to win promotion to the first division as soon as possible and give Paris a second major team along with Paris Saint-Germain," managing director Serge Guyot told Reuters.

Paris Saint-Germain, the French Cup holders and the first successful Parisian team since the early 1960s, line up in the quarter-finals of the European Cup Winners' Cup next month and are pushing for a place for the European Football Union (UEFA) Cup next season.

Paris Racing 1 was formed a few months ago on the ruins of the defunct Paris football club and bears one of the most prestigious names in French sport—the Racing Club de France, which celebrated its centenary last year.

The club, which has an annual budget of eight million francs (\$1.6m) is the brainchild of Jean-Luc Lagardere, one of the country's most successful businessmen, who Guyot said wanted to build "a team worthy of Paris."

Home for the team is France's biggest stadium, the recently-renovated 60,000-seat Stade de Colombes in the western outskirts of Paris.

But it could share the Parc des Princes with Paris Saint-Germain next year, Guyot said.

"With an average of only 2,000 spectators this season, we can't afford to remain in the second division. Although Lagardere and his group are ready to spend a lot of money, they obviously expect results, the only way to become crowd-pullers," he said.

Racing Paris 1 is currently fourth in the second division, five points behind leaders Rennes.

But the advertising campaign is no gimmick, Guyot stressed. "There is no reason why you shouldn't promote a soccer club like any other commercial item," he argued.

Although club officials were reluctant to give a figure, advertising experts reckon such a campaign could cost around 800,000 francs (\$160,000).

"We hope this campaign will become a landmark because it is our ambition to be innovative, using today's sophisticated means of communication and shake up the somewhat rigid habits of the French soccer world," he said.

The club, with a pool of 16 players and no recognised star, has recruited trainer Alain de Marigny, who helped manager Michel Hidalgo take France to fourth place in last year's World Cup finals.

Guyot is full of praise for Marigny, who he calls "one of the best in this country."

Guyot believes in his product, predicting the club will play in the first division within three years, and make its mark in Europe soon afterwards.

## Hooper's rocket-serves oust Kriek from U.S. indoor tennis

MEMPHIS, Tennessee (R) — Chip Hooper continued his awe-some serving, coming up with 14 aces to beat defending champion Johan Kriek, 6-4, 6-4, in the second round of the U.S. National Indoor Tennis Championships Tuesday.

The unseeded Hooper also used his rocket-serves to get 22 aces in his first-round match against Marcos Hocevar of Brazil on Monday. Kriek was able to break Hooper's serve in the second game of the match after losing his own, but that was as close as he came for the remainder of the 85-minute match.

In the final set, Kriek was able to reach deuce for the only time in the last game.

Hooper got the decisive service break in the seventh game of the first set and in the ninth game in the second set.

"Everybody knows that I can serve really big, but running around the court and keeping the ball in play 10 times I think may upset the guys a little bit," Hooper said.

Also in the second round top-seeded Jimmy Connors saved two setpoints and won the last five games to beat Tim Wilkison, 6-3, 7-5.

In the second set the acrobatic Wilkison had Connors 2-5 down with a double setpoint at 15-40. But Wilkison missed the first setpoint on a backhand shot and then Connors got a cross-court winner to escape and pull the match his way again.

It took a questionable call in the ninth game to seal Wilkison's downfall. The score was deuce when Wilkison served an apparent ace to Connors' forehand and caught him flatfooted, but the ball

was called wide.

Clearly upset by this call, Wilkison double-faulted and then lost his serve as Connors hit a forehand return winner.

Connors won 12 of the last 13 points, clinching the match with two successive love games.

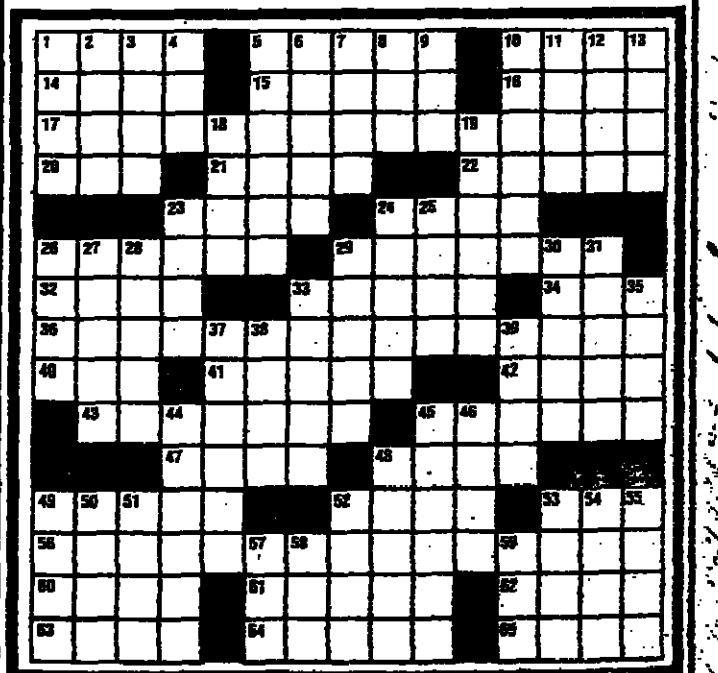
In other second-round play, Paul McNamee of Australia beat

13th-seeded Jimmy Arias, 6-1.

6-1: Henri Leconte of France, despite spraining his ankle in the second set, beat 16th-seeded Kevin Curren of South Africa, 6-4, 3-6, 6-2. 12th-seeded Sandy Mayer beat Vijay Amritraj of India, 6-0, 6-1. 14th-seeded Tomas Smid of Czechoslovakia beat Robert Van't Hoff, 6-2, 6-1.

## THE Daily Crossword by Jane J. Bort

ACROSS	26 Ancient center of Greek culture	48 Movie starlet	24 Attempts to OPEC man
1 Snare	53 Date	58 Feltness	26 French cleric
5 — Rogers St. Johns	29 Orchestra	58 Faithless	27 Hobo
10 Cushions	32 Forehead	60 Huron or	28 Temporary residence
14 Ancient writing	33 Oriental	61 Initiates	29 Low
15 More pleasant	34 Malture	62 Zone	30 Fishing hooks
16 Nastase	35 Have — (be loco)	63 Candid	31 White-plumed bird
17 Very selfish person	40 Under dial	64 Pastime	33 Book of maps
20 Deatre	41 Storms	65 Before gas or jerker	35 "Jane —"
21 Roman statesman	43 Of the sole of the foot	DOWN	37 Neglect
22 Gaucho's	45 "Valse —"	1 Salver	38 Alliance
23 Consecrated	47 Courts	2 Discolour	39 acronym
24 Mexican sandwich	48 Toward the mouth	3 Presently	39 "Beel —"
Yesterday's Puzzle Solvot:			
<p>STRENGTH KATHA TIES PANAMA PATR HERE ON THE PRINCE IVAN OUTER DANCE ARIST SING LIFE PABER ENTAIL MAPESIBY SYRIA ELIAS ENDS ADAR SAC RES BAPT APERTURE SPIREA NORAS AMA TEST OKASIS CLAMP ESE NATO DOWN INTO THREE LIFT TERT SISIS TRIPY MESIAS</p>			
5 Chronicles	46 Chimed	48 Different	49 European capital
6 Sample song	48 European capital	50 Easy task	51 Form into a hard mass
7 Resound	50 Easy task	51 Form into a hard mass	52 French town
8 Robt. E. —	51 Form into a hard mass	52 French town	53 Concern
9 Prepare for war	52 French town	53 Concern	54 Cruising
10 Aquatic plant	53 Concern	54 Cruising	55 Autocrat
12 Scarsdale —	54 Cruising	55 Autocrat	57 Tax agency
13 Antitoxins	55 Autocrat	57 Tax agency	58 Pinch
18 Sacred image	57 Tax agency	58 Pinch	59 Squealer
19 Hidden	58 Pinch	59 Squealer	
23 Chops	59 Squealer		



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## Jordan Times

Tel: 666265, 666320

## HOUSEKEEPER REQUIRED

PHILADELPHIA HOTEL needs a housekeeper with executive ability and complete knowledge of work.

Salary: negotiable upon personal interview from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

## EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Notice to all American citizens living in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

American citizens residing in Jordan are requested to visit the American Embassy Consular Section in order to register if they have not done so in the past. Previously registered citizens should telephone or contact the American Consulate to inform it of their continued presence in the country and any change in telephone, address or employment.

The American Embassy is located in Jabal Amman between Second and Third Circles, directly across from the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel. The phone number is 44371, P.O. Box 354.

The Consular Section is open to the public 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Sunday thru Thursday.

## FURNISHED APARTMENT

New furnished apartment, located between 6th and 7th Circles, Jabal Amman. 2-3 bedrooms, deluxe furniture with all accommodation.

Please call: 44090

## FLAT FOR RENT

A ground-floor separate flat with an area of 200 sq. mt. Consisting of three bedrooms, salon, dining and living, large garden, parking and telephone. Near Al Hussein Housing Estate, on the new Mecca road. Annual rent JD 2,800.

Please phone: 39598 between 2 - 4 p.m. or after 6 p.m.

## FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Brand new deluxe furnished apartment consisting of 2 bedrooms, dining room, living room, one bathroom, with 2 glassed-in verandas, tinted glass, separate central heating, TV, telephone and all amenities.

Please contact: Tel. 25445 or 37845-Amman

## FOR RENT

Furnished ground-floor, located behind the Holiday Inn, consists of two bedrooms and accessories. Centrally heated with colour TV, telephone and garden.

For further information, please contact: Mr. Sami, Tel. 666464 or 665804



## POSITION REQUIRED

A Jordanian civil engineer, fluent in English with 4 years experience in supervision, looking for a job with a consulting or contracting company.

Please call: 02-2754, Irbi

## FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Two bedrooms, guest room, dining, sitting, two verandas and two bathrooms. Centrally heated with telephone. Jabal Amman, Second Circle. Annual rent: JD 4000.

Tel. 25145 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. 668723 after 5 p.m.

## FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Fully furnished apartment consisting of 3 bedrooms, salon, dining room and two bathrooms. Centrally heated by a separate boiler, telephone available. Location: Jabal Amman 5th Circle, Abdoun area.

For further details contact Tel. 666126/7/8



# ECONOMY

## European Commission favours summit of Mediterranean states

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Commission is in favour of a summit conference of Western Mediterranean states that would concentrate on problems raised by enlarging the European Community, commission officials said Wednesday.

President Francois Mitterrand of France, concerned by the repercussions for Southern Europe of entry by Spain and Portugal into the Community, proposed the idea of a Mediterranean littoral summit while on a visit to Morocco last month. It has not been decided which countries should attend.

The officials said such a meeting would be one step in helping to ease strains on all Mediterranean countries whose exports of fruits and vegetables to the Community would largely be replaced by the same products from Spain and Portugal.

The commission is holding talks with those countries, mainly Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Israel, Malta and Cyprus, in parallel with negotiations on Spanish and Portuguese entry, as requested by the 10 Common Market foreign ministers last month.

A spokesman said commission vice-president Mr. Lorenzo Natali is in Egypt to discuss the problem. Tuesday, Italian Prime Minister Amintore Fanfani and Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran said they favoured the summit.

## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities drifted lower through lack of support ahead of the account-end with most interest seen in the new Associated British Ports issue, dealers said. The F.T. index at 1500 Wednesday was down 9.2 at 652.7.

Associated British Ports opened at 129 and in heavy trading advanced to 138, a premium of 26p on the issue price.

Government bonds fluctuated throughout the session before closing around 1/4 point higher as sterling firmed slightly and the market reacted favourably to early comments from Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker, in his congressional testimony, dealers said.

Banks recovered towards the close with Natwest off 1p at 515 after 510 following reports that London banking sources do not think that it is planning an early rights issue. Oils edged off the lows with B.P. unchanged on balance at 322.

Beecham was down 3p at 368 after 365 on news it is to close various distilleries. In stores, UDS was down 1p at 109 after Tuesday's increased bid offer from Bassishaw, and Burton fell 1p at 319 on fears the retail chain deal with UDS may collapse.

Leading industrials recovered slightly in late trading with ICI off 2p at 392 after 386 and Lucas down 1p at 148 after 147.

Gold shares turned mixed despite the firmness of bullion.

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.5378/88	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2257/54	Canadian dollars
	2.4085/95	West German marks
	2.6580/90	Dutch guilders
	1.9960/80	Swiss francs
	47.33/37	Belgian francs
	6.8280/8330	French francs
	1386.00/1387.00	Italian lire
	234.75/90	Japanese yen
	7.3955/75	Swedish crowns
	7.0695/0715	Norwegian crowns
	8.5225/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	506.00/507.00	U.S. dollars

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Shultz urges private banks to lend

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said Tuesday a steep drop in private bank lending to countries with high debt would imperil their recovery and retard world economic expansion. He said estimates for the second half of last year showed a precipitous drop in new lending. He gave no precise figures.

### UAE has highest per capita income

ABU DHABI (OPECNA) — The United Arab Emirates has the highest per capita income in the world at \$30,070, according to the Washington-based Population Reference Bureau. Last year the UAE was one of the few oil-producing countries with a balance of payments surplus, despite falling oil prices.

### U.K. expected to cut oil price

LONDON (R) — Britain is expected to cut the price of its North Sea oil on Friday in the first such move by a major producer in the present oil glut crisis, industry sources said Tuesday.

### Senior Polish bankers resign

WARSAW (R) — A second senior official of Poland's Bank Handlowy has resigned, banking sources said Tuesday. They said Mr. Jan Woloszyn, the vice president who has played a key personal role in renegotiating Poland's huge foreign debts, was leaving the bank Wednesday with the president, Mr. Stanislaw Kobak, whose departure was revealed earlier.

### More U.S. firms cut oil price

NEW YORK (R) — Two more U.S. oil companies Tuesday cut by \$1 a barrel the price they pay for domestic crude oil. Marathon Oil in Findlay, Ohio, and Ashland Oil in Ashland, Kentucky, matched the cuts announced by Texaco, Phillips Petroleum and other U.S. companies.

### Turkey remodels gold price setting

ANKARA (R) — Turkey Tuesday changed the method of setting its official gold price, apparently opening the way for a reduction in Bosphorus and Dardanelles straits transit fees which were raised tenfold last November.

### Qatar to extend compost plant

DOHA (OPECNA) — A Swiss firm has been contracted to help expand the Qatar compost plant, increasing its production capacity to 300 tonnes of fertilizer daily by the end of the year. Also planned is a \$2 million facility for compressing and transporting solid refuse used as feedstock for compost. A British company is expected to complete this project by next August.

### FAO helps Saudi fisheries project

JEDDAH (OPECNA) — The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is helping in a Saudi fish-breeding project to improve commercial exploitation of the kingdom's fisheries resources.

### Democrats angers White House

WASHINGTON (R) — Democratic congressional leaders have angered the White House by leaking details of the Reagan administration's plans for a \$7.5 billion emergency jobs, food and shelter assistance programme. Opposition party leaders briefed reporters on the proposal, which administration officials presented to them at a secret meeting last week.

## Oman denies bid to sell oil below official price

BAHRAIN (R) — Oman Wednesday denied that it was offering to sell its oil below the official price of just over \$34 a barrel.

An Omani oil ministry spokesman told Reuters by telephone from Muscat that reports that the sultanate appeared to be offering a \$4 discount on the official price were wrong.

Informed oil industry sources in the Gulf said Tuesday that Oman had reopened talks with its oil company customers on cutting the price of its crude.

They added Wednesday that negotiations were continuing.

Oman wanted a fixed price for the whole of 1983 but the customers were reluctant to become locked into a level that might appear high later in the year, they said.

Gulf oil ministers are widely expected to meet soon to devise a strategy for dealing with the world glut that the industry believes will include a \$4 cut in prices.

In Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE) Finance Minister Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid was quoted Wednesday as saying that if the oil crisis continued it would bring down the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

"The continuation of the oil crisis and the absence of a unified production and pricing policy will lead to OPEC's disintegration," he told the newspaper Al Bayan, adding that the problem would last for at least another six months.

He said he did not expect the UAE's 1983 budget to be seriously affected by falling oil revenue.

The effects were still manageable and it was unlikely that the country would introduce income tax.

The time had come for the UAE to review its foreign aid programme, he said.

The real cause of the problem was that some OPEC members had in the past produced three times more oil than necessary and this had raised the level of world oil stocks, he added.

A leading Abu Dhabi newspaper Wednesday blamed the United States for the oil crisis and urged the Arabs quickly to withdraw investments from American banks before the oil market collapses.

Al Wahda daily said the United States had planned to make the oil producers dependent on American aid as they were before oil was discovered.

"The crisis has almost reached the point of a catastrophe, with no oil state being able to pursue its development plans. As a remedy, deposits and investments in big American banks should be withdrawn and reinvested locally, with greater security and profitability," Al Wahda said.

## China plans to launch communications satellite

PEKING (R) — China plans to launch its first communications satellite this year in a major boost for its space programme, the People's Daily reported Wednesday.

The official newspaper said the main purpose of the satellite would be to gain experience and gather data, as well as to perform experiments in telephone communications and radio and television broadcasting.

Industry sources said the satellite would also have important military applications, as if successful it could enormously improve communications between China's far-flung army units.

The People's Daily said in a two-sentence announcement that the satellite would remain in a fixed position relative to the earth at 70 degrees east above the Equator—over the Indian Ocean. It gave no date for the launching.

China has launched 12 satellites into space since 1970, all involving much less sophisticated technology than a communications satellite.

Industry sources said China had been considering buying a \$200 million satellite communications system from the United States, but these plans had since been shelved because of economic cutbacks as well as political problems in transferring such advanced technology to a communist country.

But they said China had obtained detailed technical information on the satellite from the U.S. during the negotiations, and Chinese scientists had no doubt used this in designing their own system.

Last July China announced that it was developing a launch vehicle aimed at putting satellites into orbit or sending a large-scale rocket into space.

Diplomatic sources said the three-stage CZ-3 vehicle would be powered by liquid propellant and would probably use similar technology to the intercontinental ballistic missiles China has already launched.

Industry sources said use of a satellite would give a powerful boost to military communications which are at present extremely primitive.

## Soviet economy shows progress

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union published key economic indicators Wednesday which showed a marked increase in productivity and output last month compared with January last year.

Western economic analysts here said a vigorous efficiency drive by Soviet leader Mr. Yuri Andropov might have been translated into concrete results but they also said last year's figures could have been unusually bad.

The figures were contained in a monthly report on industrial production in the weekly Ekonomicheskaya Gazeta, which said industrial output had increased by 6.3 per cent and labour productivity by 5.5 per cent in January compared with the same period last year.

The figures failed to appear in last year's January report on the Soviet economy, which also omitted comparisons with January 1981.

The report published by the Soviet central statistics board said the plan for the first month of 1983 had been fulfilled by 101 per cent and detailed figures showed slight increases in output in a range of industries.

Steel production rose to 13 million tonnes from 12.4 million in the same period last year.

Oil production increased slightly to 12.65 million barrels per day (b/d) from 12.36 million (b/d) and gas output increased to 46.2 billion cubic metres from 42.6 billion in the same month last year.

Electric power output increased to 132 billion kwh from 129 billion and coal production rose to 61.8 million tonnes from 61.7 million.

## YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

### FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, FEB. 17, 1983

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** A wonderful day to make an advancement in career activities, but be sure not to force your will on others. You can easily extend your ideas beyond present boundaries now.

**ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)** Extend your interests so you can gain more profits in the future. Be less demanding of family members. Express happiness.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20)** Take the right steps to improve your financial position. A new project needs more study before going ahead with it.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)** Schedule your activities wisely so you get maximum use of your time. Be sure to use extreme caution in motion today.

**MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21)** You can now understand how to improve your financial position so don't waste valuable time.

**LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21)** Go after your finest personal aims and you can easily gain them. Sidestep a foe who could spoil your happiness.

**VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22)** Study your ambitions well now and don't confide in others. Show more affection for mate. Many benefits can come now.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)** Go after personal aims with more enthusiasm and effort and you can easily gain them. Be alert at all times today.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)** You are now able to get the backing you need from a higher-up. Be sure to keep promises you've made to friends.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)** You can make a good impression on others by showing you are honest and decent. Relax at home tonight.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20)** Be more objective in dealing with others where business matters are concerned or you could jeopardize your security.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19)** Be sure to keep the promises made to family members. Come to a better accord with associates. Think constructively.

**PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20)** Go after your aims in a positive manner and get excellent results. Contact loyal friends who can be helpful to you.

**IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY...** he or she will be capable of comprehending a great deal of knowledge, so give the finest education you can afford and there can be much success. Don't neglect religious tenets that are important to a good way of life.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

### FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, FEB. 18, 1983

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** An excellent day and evening for you to rely more upon your prophetic insight. Advancement can now be gained by looking into activities that have not been part of your life.

**ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)** Your success can be increased if you seek the guidance of experience persons. Exercise extreme caution in travel.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20)** You know exactly how to make a better impression on the one you love, so follow through on such. Don't neglect duties.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)** Formulate a plan whereby you can ascertain what your true position is with associates. Cooperate more with co-workers.

**MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21)** Take care of routine tasks that need doing instead of procrastinating. Take time to improve your appearance.

**LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21)** If you study the details concerning entertainment plans you have, you can be successful with them later. Use common sense.

**VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22)** Gain the views of family members and then make your home more comfortable. Happiness can be yours for the asking.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)** You are able to entertain friends today after your work is done and have a delightful time. Plan your activities wisely.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)** You are in need of more income now and will be inspired just how to get it. Consult an expert before making any decisions.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)** Plan for tomorrow's activity during spare time today. Attending a social affair tonight can be beneficial.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20)** Coordinate new ideas with the plans you have in mind. Help good friends who in turn can be of service to you.

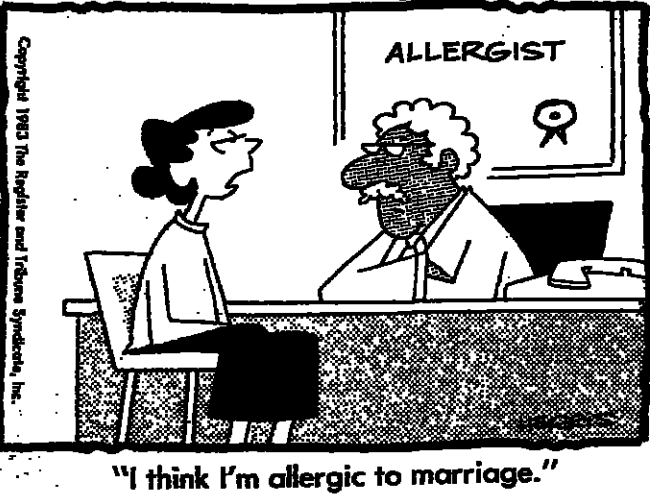
**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19)** If you show good friends that you value the alliance, you will gain their loyalty. Show increased devotion to loved one.

**PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20)** Put aside personal matters and handle civic affairs in a most efficient way. A quiet and restful evening is best for you.

**IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY...** he or she will have many good ideas developing early in life. It is wise to plan a fine education that will include the study of foreign language and philosophy. There is likely to be much travel in foreign countries in this chart.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

## THE BETTER HALF By Harris



"I think I'm allergic to marriage."

## JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SOKYM

EXOID

GALEGH

CUSCOT

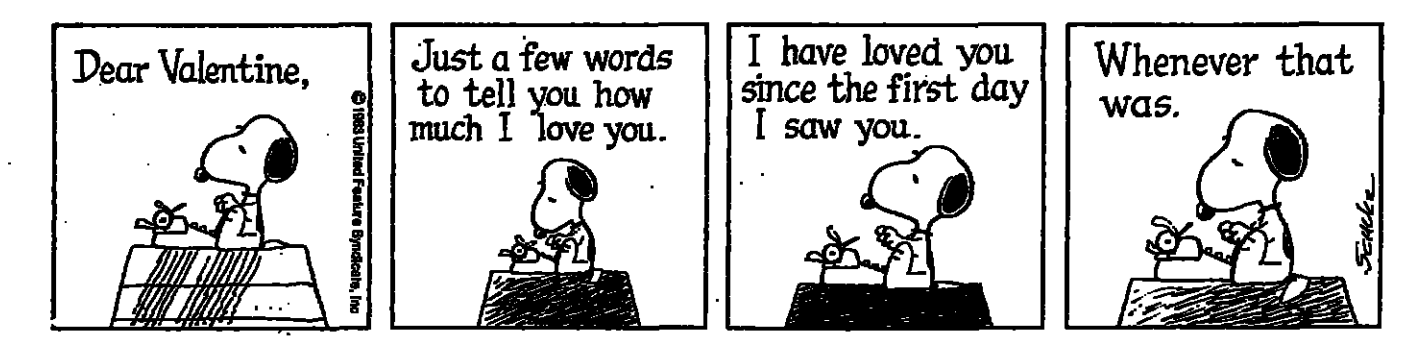
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

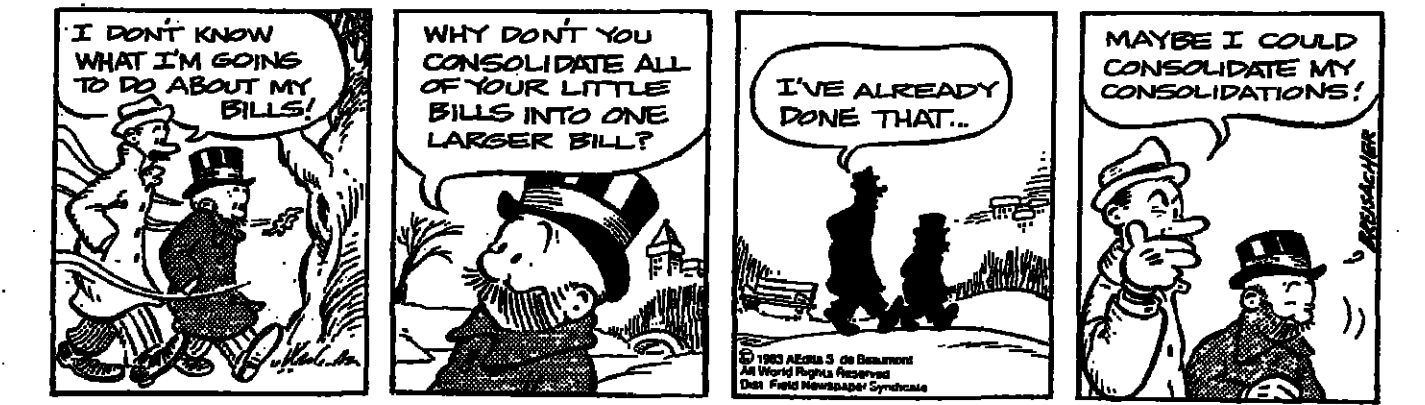
Yesterday's Jumble: DECAY MOSSY TYPING LACKEY

Answer: What she went through in order to buy her husband a birthday present—HIS POCKETS

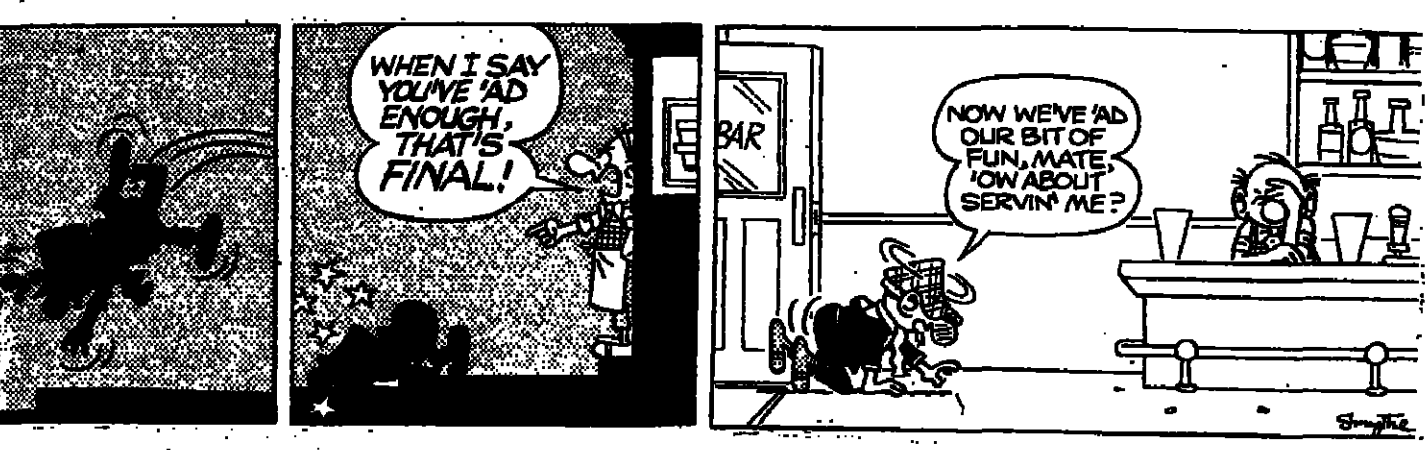
## Peanuts



## Mutt 'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp





## WORLD

## Drought in Ethiopia reportedly takes on disastrous proportions

NAIROBI (R) — Tens of thousands of people could die and more than three million others are threatened with food shortages in Ethiopia's worst drought for 10 years, a senior aid worker said Wednesday.

Mark Bowden, regional advisor of the Save the Children Fund (SCF), told Reuters after a visit to Ethiopia that the drought was reminiscent of a similar situation there in the early 1970s when more than 200,000 people died.

The SCF is working closely with the Ethiopian Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC), which said Tuesday that the drought was afflicting several parts of the country as severe as in 1974.

Mr. Bowden, who worked in Ethiopia in the 1970s, said that the most seriously-affected areas were the rugged regions of Wollo, Tigray and Gondar, north of Addis Ababa.

"It is fair to say that tens of thousands of lives are at risk, men, women and children, and famine is a real risk for 3.5 million people in these areas," he said in an interview.

Mr. Bowden said the danger signs were that tens of thousands of

people were leaving the drought-stricken areas for relief centres carrying practically nothing and were living "beside the road without a roof over their heads."

"They will be utterly destitute in a way that just does not happen in Africa. They have come with absolutely nothing," Mr. Bowden declared.

The afflicted areas are up to 4,000 metres above sea level and are a breeding ground for pneumonia, bronchitis, and lice-bred typhus. Measles epidemics are a possibility, Mr. Bowden added.

In addition to the difficulty of the terrain, autonomy-seeking guerrillas of the Tigray Peoples Liberation Front (TPLF) were operating in parts of Tigray province, he said.

The Ethiopian government has appealed for urgent relief aid to stave off potential disaster in areas it says are hit by natural catastrophe and "civil disturbance," an apparent reference to guerrilla activity.

Mr. Bowden said emergency aid was coming through. The British government is to give £100,000 (\$150,000) and the SCF is to spend an identical amount, he added.

## Saddam's letter urges Iranians to end war

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has appealed to Iranians to end the 29-month Gulf War, saying it would bring their country to ruin.

In an open letter to the people and army of Iran, broadcast over Baghdad Radio, he said the conflict would damage the two countries' future as well as present relations.

President Hussein's appeal followed an Iranian offensive launched last week against the southern Iraqi province of Misan. Iraq said it smashed the offensive and killed over 15,000 Iranians.

The last heavy fighting was reported five days ago and an Iraqi military communiqué Tuesday spoke of 36 Iranians killed in the past 24 hours — a relatively low claim.

President Hussein said Iraq had "tried in every possible way to make (the Iranians) aware of the dangers of their aggressive beh-

aviour and appealed for peace...

"We are fully convinced that the continuation of war will lead (Iran) to a catastrophe," he declared.

President Hussein said the age of invasions was passing and even the superpowers found there was little scope for expansion.

The failure of several Iranian attempts to break through Iraqi frontiers had put the facts into perspective, he said.

"If the matter is as Iranian rulers say, why didn't the ruling system in Iraq fall despite the fact that the war continued into its third year?" he declared.

"Your regime, gentlemen, is driven by war and the continuation of this war," President Hussein told the Iranians. "That is why it rejected and still rejects all international efforts, including those by the Islamic states, to end the war."

## Israel claims Haddad's militia will be part of Lebanese army

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli television has reported that Israeli-backed militia under the command of Maj. Saad Haddad were being incorporated into the Lebanese army.

The report quoted defence sources as saying 180 of the renegade major's Christian militia men this month received their salaries from Beirut.

Israel Radio reported U.S. envoy Philip Habib told Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir during a meeting in occupied Jerusalem Tuesday that Maj. Haddad's militia could soon become part of the regular Lebanese army.

In Beirut, defence ministry sources said there was no possibility of the Lebanese government accepting the integration of Maj. Haddad's militia into the regular army.

They said cabinet ministers regarded Maj. Haddad's latest moves, including the establishment of a garrison with

tanks in the town of Sidon in southern Lebanon, as serious developments which caused concern.

But diplomatic sources said it was conceivable the Lebanese might agree to some formula under which at least Maj. Haddad himself might return to the regular army.

Israeli television showed a unit of Maj. Haddad's forces, equipped and trained by the Israelis, moving into new posts Monday in the southern Lebanese towns of Sidon and Nabatiya.

The U.S. State Department said that Washington holds Israel responsible, as "the occupying power," for protecting the lives of inhabitants in southern Lebanon.

The department said the firm U.S. position was that all armed elements throughout Lebanon had to be brought under the control of the central government.

An Israeli army spokesman said he had no further information on the reports about Maj. Haddad.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Kuwaiti minister warns against ban

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait will outlaw all alcohol imports within a month despite warnings by its foreign minister that a ban approved Tuesday by parliament might empty some embassies here to distill their own liquor. Parliament voted 20 to zero with 10 abstentions to end an exemption allowing embassies to import alcohol into Kuwait. Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah said last week that the ban would "close a window but open a door," adding that some embassies might set up stills.

## 'Sunset strip slayer' sentenced to death

LOS ANGELES (R) — Douglas Clark, the "sunset strip slayer" who had called on a Los Angeles jury to recommend sentencing him to death, got his wish Tuesday. The jury of eight women and four men recommended that he die in the gas chamber for the murders of six young women.

## 28 start hunger strike in El Salvador

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Twenty-eight jailed members of El Salvador's main guerrilla movement went on hunger strike to press demands for talks to end the country's civil war, prison officials said. They said the group from the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN) in Mariona prison just north of San Salvador started refusing food at midnight. Officials said the hunger strike was probably timed to coincide with next month's visit to Central America by Pope John Paul II, who is due to spend one day in El Salvador.

## White Zimbabwean child dies in ambush

HARARE (R) — A white mine manager in southern Zimbabwe has accused government troops of having killed his four-year-old son in an ambush of the family car. Terry Lahee, 37, told reporters by telephone that his son Roy, who would have been five in April, was shot through the neck by a National Army soldier last Thursday as the family drove home to Legion mine 30 kilometres north of the Botswana border. "I saw one of the National Army guys turn with his G-3 rifle (standard army issue) and he opened up on us," he said. Mr. Lahee said the same soldiers troops later opened fire on his car with small arms and rifle grenades as he returned home after having sought medical help. That time no one was hit.

## Conscription affects Kabul University

ISLAMABAD (R) — A hectic conscription drive in Afghanistan has more than halved applications to Kabul University since last year. Western diplomats said. They said for the first time in the University's history, female outnumbered male applications, with 2,500 females and 1,500 males sitting the February entrance examination, against last year's 6,656 males and 3,483 females. The diplomats said only men who had completed military service in the war waged by Afghanistan's Soviet-backed government against Muslim rebels could sit the examination.

## 'I am God when I get paid for it'

LOS ANGELES (R) — Comedian George Burns, who starred in the film "Oh, God," was told by a lawyer during a brief court appearance Tuesday "I never cross-examined God before."

"I am only God when I get paid for it," the 87-year-old Burns replied.

Burns was giving evidence for the defence in a case concerning the late Groucho Marx whose companion, actress Erin Fleming, is being sued for \$1.68 million by the Bank of America.

The bank alleges she obtained \$400,000 from Marx and syndication rights to his television shows by exerting undue influence over him. Witnesses have said that he was afraid of Miss Fleming. But Burns said Tuesday Marx never stopped singing at parties he gave with her.

Burns said he attended at least six large gatherings at Marx's home during the final six years of the comedian's life and Marx always appeared to be happy.

## Assam polls 2nd round starts today

NEW DELHI (R) — India's Assam state votes Thursday in the second round of local assembly elections amid rising ethnic violence in which entire villages have been burnt by gangs armed with axes and spears.

Polling for the 126-seat assembly in the fertile, tea-growing northeastern state, where thousands of people have been left homeless by the trouble, is taking place in three stages.

Tension rose on the first day's voting on Monday following reports of a tribal massacre in the central Darrang district.

There were fresh reports of tro-

uble Wednesday in Darrang and two other districts, but few details were immediately available.

Indian news agency and press reports said up to 150 people were killed when tribesmen rampaged through at least 15 villages in the Gohpur area of Darrang at the weekend, adding to a death toll of more than 125 in the past two weeks of unrest.

The bloodshed in the run-up to the elections was sparked by an anti-immigrant campaign by hard-line Assamese Hindus who say Bengali-speaking Muslims have taken over land and jobs and been included on electoral rolls.

The election commission has announced that repolling will take place in parts of 16 constituencies after violence resulted in the ransacking of booths and destruction of ballot papers at 137 of 6,000 polling stations.

The Assam government has admitted that entire villages were razed to the ground, but it said the death toll had been exaggerated and only 10 bodies had been found.

Reporters could not get to the scene of the alleged massacre because roads had been cut. Police reached it by helicopter.

The election commission has announced that repolling will take place in parts of 16 constituencies after violence resulted in the ransacking of booths and destruction of ballot papers at 137 of 6,000 polling stations.

## 12 feared dead in Australian bushfires

SYDNEY (R) — At least 12 people were feared dead as bushfires raged out of control in two drought-stricken Australian states Wednesday, destroying hundreds of homes and forcing the evacuation of thousands of people.

The South Australian government declared a state of disaster around the capital city of Adelaide as more than a dozen fires, fanned by gale force winds, tore through semi-rural suburbs

and spread to outlying areas to the north and southeast.

Police said 11 people were believed dead, mostly in hill districts around Adelaide but it was impossible to confirm the casualty figure with fires still raging.

At least one person was killed in neighbouring Victoria State where four fires were burning out of control.

Thousands of people were

being evacuated from the coastal resort town of Lorne as the fires raced through bushland dried up by one of the worst droughts in Australia's history.

Around Adelaide, people stood on roofs to hose fires from their mostly wooden homes before abandoning them and driving to safety. Cattle on nearby farms panicked and fled as the fires ate up the tinder-dry grass over wide areas.

## 'Soviets may have edge in any future star war'

WASHINGTON (R) — Senior U.S. air force officials said the Soviet Union could achieve military dominance in space if its anti-satellite warfare and laser technology advances continue unchecked.

They said the Soviet forces already have the world's only operational killer satellite designed to destroy U.S. space communications vital for retaliation after a Soviet strike.

Air force secretary Verne Orr and Chief of Staff Gen. Charles A. Gabriel made their assessment in an annual report to Congress in support of a \$92.9 billion budget

for the 1984 financial year which begins on Oct. 1.

A total of \$205.6 million will go for space defence and \$108.4 million for space surveillance.

Much of this would be spent on an anti-satellite (A-sat) system to knock out Soviet satellites with a small missile launched from a modified F-15 fighter.

Mr. Orr and Gen. Gabriel said that in the past 10 years the Soviet Union had launched three to four times as many satellites as the U.S., and 70 per cent of their space missions had military applications.

## Italian police find mafia links with U.S., France

ROME (R) — A nation-wide police drive against organised crime has uncovered proof of links between Sicilian and Naples gang bosses and associates in the U.S. and France, justice officials have said.

In a tightly co-ordinated crackdown overnight, police in Turin Tuesday intercepted a lorry-load of illegal arms shipped from New York while magistrates in Rome, Milan and other cities issued more than 80 arrest warrants for suspected Mafia drug dealers.

Police acting on the warrants made 60 arrests, including 28 in Rome, eight in Milan, eight in Pal-

ermo, four in Genoa and two in Naples, the state prosecutors' office said in a statement.

Customs police in Turin said they intercepted a cargo of sub-machine guns, pump-action rifles and revolvers apparently shipped by a U.S. East Coast mafia "family" to Naples for distribution to associates in northern Italy.

Among those arrested in Rome were the wife and sister of Michele Zaza, imprisoned leader of the Naples "Nuova famiglia" Camorra, or local mafia, involved in a bloody battle for control on the Neapolitan rackets.

## Cairo denies torture claim

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Wednesday repudiated a report by Amnesty International on torture in Egyptian jails.

The report by the London-based human rights group said political prisoners in Egypt had faced a wave of torture since the assassination of President Anwar Sadat.

Asked to comment, Mr. Ali told Reuters: "It is exaggerated and misleading."

He cited what he said were reports by other international human rights groups, saying they praised Egypt for the legal and just trials of members of outlawed political organisations.

Mr. Ali denied any knowledge of amnesty's requests to send delegations to Egypt to discuss human rights.

"I will personally investigate

the matter," he said. Wednesday's amnesty report said it had received no reply from Egypt to its repeated requests for delegations to be sent here.

Mr. Ali said an independent party was investigating torture claims made by some of the 280 members of an outlawed militant Muslim group now on trial for attempting to overthrow the government by force.

He was referring to a ruling issued by the judge of the court looking into the case to refer 260 of the accused to medical examiners to investigate their torture claims.

The examiners' report, according to the ruling, should have been submitted to the judge 10 days ago, but was expected to remain unknown until the trial resumes on Saturday after a six-week adjournment.

## Dacca tense after crackdown

DACCA (R) — Tension gripped this capital city Wednesday after 30 political leaders of Bangladesh were jailed for holding a meeting in defiance of martial law.

The leaders of an 18-party alliance were arrested by troops Tuesday as they met at the home of former Foreign Minister Kamal Hossain to plan future action following battles between police and students over the past two days.

Troops who raided the alliance meeting had been called in to restore order in the capital after five people were killed and more than 100 injured in Dacca and other cities.

Detained leaders include Sheikh Hasina Wazed, head of the Awami League Party, and Dr. Hossain.

The violence started on Monday when a student demonstration to protest about changes in education policy quickly developed into a battle against martial law imposed last March by the military ruler, Lt. Gen. Hossain Mohammad Ershad.

Dacca was under a 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. curfew and heavily-armed troops patrolled streets to prevent further clashes.

Demonstrators damaged government property and other buildings and set fire to Dacca's municipal corporation offices.

Educational institutions in the capital, as well as in southern Chittagong and northern Rajshahi towns, were closed by the government until Feb. 27.

## THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

KINFOLK  
By Albie Mied

ACROSS  
1 Stand  
5 Experts  
9 Pranks for  
13 Prank or vision  
18 Pile up  
19 Raines or  
20 Logos  
21 Shanties of  
22 music  
23 Inhabited  
24 Short tale of  
25 adventures  
26 Told a story  
27 Cauter of  
28 fashion  
29 Herby's ball  
30 Lott  
31 Bohemian  
32 "Wednesday"

DOWN  
1 King  
2 T.S.'s folks  
3 Wanda  
4 Senses  
5 Urge  
6 Breathing  
7 Not spot  
8 Indication  
9 Now  
10 Author Hunter  
11 Impact  
12 Impart  
13 Compound  
14 Future oak  
15 Safe lid  
16 The King  
17 British weapon  
18 Spleen  
19 Prefigured  
20 Scenario  
21 Spleen  
22 Military  
23 Nabokov title  
24 Helmer letter  
27 Chicken part  
28 Western sight

Diagramless  
17 X 17, by R.M. McWhirk

DOWN  
1 Hulled corn  
2 Far from  
3 Otherwise  
4 Lettuce  
5 Wifely  
6 Norwegian  
7 Edward VI's  
8 Concord  
9 Save  
10 Certain reply  
11 Constellation

ACROSS  
18 Subtle  
19 Atmospheric  
20 Pile's outcry  
21 Hay fever  
22 Idiot  
23 Actor's dream  
24 Remnant  
25 Always  
26 Desert lark  
27 Dervish  
28 Kind of  
29 trailer

DOWN  
13 Weight  
14 Lovers for  
15 Urban renewal  
16 "Come  
17 Vitality  
18 Like winter  
19 Days  
20 Polite  
21 Transaction  
22 "no one  
23 Kind of  
24 Big bird

ACROSS  
25 Synopses  
26 Miro's successor  
27 Red cop  
28 Dos Passos  
29 rhyco  
30 Aubrey  
31 Forward the  
32 Church feature  
33 Philippine  
34 Island  
35 Charles and  
36 "My - Sa"  
37 Hamlet  
38 Borge's  
39 Or Elia  
40 Thelma's money  
41 "Gaze Lette"  
42 Composer  
43 Debussy's  
44 "La"

DOWN  
38 Of a period  
39 Author Pans  
40 Do clerical  
41 Discipline  
42 War god  
43 Star riding  
44 Gavel  
45 Oedipus  
46 "Little Women"  
47 Novel  
48 Certain  
49 Easy item  
50 Unethical  
51 prefix  
52 "Grapes of  
53 Wrath" char-  
54 aware of  
55 Interlo  
56 Jacob's wife  
57 Jacob's craft  
58 Legal papers  
59 Ogden Nash's  
60 toria  
61 Helmer letter  
62 Ruler's  
63 Explosive

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84 Outing or  
85 spelling  
86 South  
87 Fashions  
88 Headwear for  
89 British  
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91 Agatha  
92 Do a violin  
93 boy job  
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95 Concocture  
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